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FROM

Wm. S. Gardner,
E. S. Coombs.

10 Jan. - 1 April, 1870.

© **GRAND LODGE**

OF

THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE FRATERNITY

OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

Freemasons —
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, --

IN UNION WITH

THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN EUROPE AND
AMERICA,

ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS,

From March 9 to Dec. 27, 1864, being its 131st Anniversary.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, G. M.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL THE LODGES.

BOSTON:

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1870, April 1.
Gift of
Wm. L. Gardner.
of Boston.

A B S T R A C T
OF
THE PROCEEDINGS OF
THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,
FROM
MARCH 9, 1864, TO DECEMBER 27, 1864.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, MARCH 9, A. L. 5864.

A Quarterly Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, on Wednesday, March 9, A. L. 5864.

P R E S E N T.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, G. Master.

R. W. Charles C. Dame, D. G. M.

“ **William S. Gardner, S. G. W.**

“ **Benjamin Dean, J. G. W.**

“ **John McClellan, G. Treasurer.**

“ **Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary.**

W. Rev. William R. Alger, } G. Chaplains.
“ **Rev. William S. Studley, }**

“ **William D. Stratton, G. Marshal.**

“ **Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. D.**

“ **Henry Mulliken, J. G. D.**

“ **W. W. Wheildon, } G. Stewards.**
“ **Lovell Bicknell, }**

“ **F. J. Foss, G. Pursuivant.**

“ **E. D. Bancroft, } G. Lecturers.**
“ **J. K. Hayward, }**

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson,	District No, 1.
" William Sutton,	" No. 2.
" William F. Salmon,	" No. 3.
" J. P. Lovell,	" No. 4.
" Rev. J. W. Dadmun,	" No. 6.
" Rev. R. S. Pope,	" No. 8.
" Henry Chickering,	" No. 9.
" Newell A. Thompson,	" No. 12.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at quarter past two o'clock. Prayer by Rev. Bro. Alger.

The following Proxies were recognized :—Bro. Albert E. Fofth, for Hampden Lodge ; Bro. Joseph Blankership, for Marion Lodge ; Bro. David Blaney, for Philanthropic Lodge ; Bro. B. G. Phillips, for Pilgrim Lodge.

The Dispensation, Records, &c., were returned, and Petitions for Charters presented by the following Lodges, viz :—Mount Olivet Lodge, Cambridge ; Pioneer, Somerset, and Blue Hill, Canton. All of which were referred to R. W. Bros. Gardner, Coolidge and Thompson, who subsequently submitted the following Report, which was adopted :—

In Grand Lodge, March 9, 1864.

The Committee to whom were referred the Petitions of certain Brethren praying to be constituted by Charters into Regular Lodges as follows :—At Cambridge, by the name of Mount Olivet Lodge ; at Canton, by the name of Blue Hill Lodge, and at Somerset, by the name of Pioneer Lodge, respectfully

REPORT:

That they have examined the Dispensations, By-Laws, Returns, Records, and Registers, presented for the approval of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee find that the Records and By-Laws of Mount Olivet Lodge are in all respects such as are required by the Grand Lodge, and in conformity with the constitutional requirements, and they therefore recommend that a Charter be granted as prayed for by the Petitioners.

The Records of Pioneer Lodge appear to have been carefully and correctly kept, and with few exceptions, the By-Laws are conformable to Grand Lodge requirements. With such amendments as your Committee have made to the By-Laws, your Committee would recommend that a Charter be granted the Petitioners.

Your Committee have examined the By-Laws of Blue Hill Lodge, and find them to be in accordance with the Constitutional regulations, except in those parts where your Committee have made amendments.

The Records appear to have been neatly and carefully kept, except in one particular. The only Record of the organization of the Lodge appears to be this—"Blue Hill Lodge met at Masonic Hall, &c., and was opened in the third degree in form, W. M. Johnson Everett in the chair. Records of last meeting read and approved."

It has been an immemorial usage among Masons, to record the names of all Brethren filling the different stations and offices, at meetings of their Lodges. If a regular officer is absent, his place is filled by appointment, and the records show the fact, and by the letters *p. t.* (*pro tempore*,) indicate that he occupies the office temporarily.

Your Committee believe that this usage and custom exist in all Masonic assemblies and organizations. To say nothing of other good reasons for carefully continuing this custom, it is the only way in which the proper officers who are appointed to examine and visit the Lodges officially, can ascertain whether a legal number of Masons was present to constitute a Lodge. The fact that this usage has existed without any change so long, is sufficient reason for us to continue it.

Formerly, and until within a very few years, it was the universal custom to place upon the record the names of every member and visitor present, and this custom still prevails in many of the Lodges in this jurisdiction.

The temptation is strong for recording officers to neglect their duty in this regard, but your Committee believe that no proper record of a Masonic Lodge can be made without it contains the full organization, and the names of the Brethren occupying the various stations.

Our records are not similar in any respects to the minutes of proceedings of debating clubs, or of the ordinary meetings of citizens.

The various Lodges cannot do better than to take the example set by the records of the proceedings of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, as found in the printed volume sent to them yearly. If they follow the form there presented, they cannot materially err in this respect.

Without any further comment upon what your Committee believe to be an isolated case, and by no means even a precedent to authorize a custom, they recommend that a Charter be granted the Brethren in conformity with their Petition, after making such changes in their By-Laws as have been indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. S. GARDNER, }
N. A. THOMPSON, } *Committee.*
WM. D. COOLIDGE, }

R. W. Brother Chickering called the attention of the Grand Lodge to certain changes said to have been made in the Lectures. Whereupon it was

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to inquire whether any, and if any, what changes have been made in the Work and Lectures as approved by this Grand Lodge in 1862.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then appointed the following Brethren to constitute the above Committee, viz :—C. C. Dame, Gardner, Coolidge, Oliver and McClellan.

It was also

Voted, That the Grand Lecturers be requested to continue to teach the Work and Lectures as approved in 1862, until the above Committee make their report.

Bro. Lawrence offered the following resolution, which was read and referred to Bros. Lawrence, Salmon, Bradford, Coolidge and Nickerson, to wit :—

Resolved, That Section 1st of Article 5th, of the Grand Lodge Constitutions, be amended by the addition of the words “ of a subordinate Lodge of this jurisdiction,” after the words “ Past Master.”

There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed at half-past four o'clock.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, JUNE 8, A. L. 5864.

A Quarterly Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Freemasons' Hall, No. 10 Summer street, Boston, on Wednesday, June 8, A. L. 5864.

P R E S E N T.

- M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, G. Master.
 " Charles C. Dame, D. G. M.
 " William S. Gardner, S. G. W.
 " Benjamin Dean, J. G. W.
 " John McClellan, G. Treasurer.
 " Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary.
 " Charles L. Woodbury, C. G. Secretary.
 W. Rev. William D. Studley, G. Chaplain.
 " William D. Stratton, G. Marshal.
 " Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. D.
 " Henry Mulliken, J. G. D.
 " Henry Tabor, } G. Stewards.
 " F. Lyman Winship, }
 " F. J. Foss, } G. Pursuivants.
 " Henry L. Dalton, }
 " E. D. Bancroft, G. Lecturer.

D I S T R I C T D E U T I E S.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| R. W. William Sutton, | District No. 2. |
| " William F. Salmon, | " No. 3. |
| " John P. Lovell, | " No. 5. |
| " Rev. R. S. Pope, | " No. 8. |
| " Solon Thornton, | " No. 11. |
| " Newell A. Thompson, | " No. 12. |

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at quarter past two o'clock, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master gave a brief history of the destruction of the Winthrop House and Freemasons' Hall by fire, on the morning of the 6th of April, and welcomed the Brethren to the new apartments which had been provided for their accommodation, until such time as a new edifice could be erected.

The Committee on the Lectures, and also the Committee on amend-

ment of the Constitutions, Part 1st, Article 5th, Section 1st, were granted further time at their own request.

The Returns, Record, Dispensation, &c., of Eden Lodge, were presented and referred to Bros. Gardner, Thompson and Andrew Smith, who subsequently submitted the following Report, which was adopted:—

In Grand Lodge, June 8, 1864.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge—

The Special Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Eden Lodge, at Ware, now under Dispensation, for a Charter or Warrant, respectfully

R E P O R T,

That they have carefully examined the Records, Returns, and By-Laws of said Lodge, which have been submitted to them, and that they find them to be substantially in accordance with the provisions of the Grand Lodge. By Section 2d, of Article 2d, of the By-Laws, it is provided that certain "Officers shall be appointed by the W. Master, with the consent of the Wardens. Your Committee believe that the inherent appointing power exists in the Master of the Lodge, and that the power of appointment should not lie in the Wardens, which is the effect of the above provision. They therefore advise that this provision be stricken out, and that the Master of the Lodge should have the absolute power of appointing such officers as he may deem proper to fill the places not elective.

Your Committee find that this Lodge has provided in its By-Laws for a clear ballot as a prerequisite to advancement from one degree to another, and that the ballot if not clear may be continued from time to time at the discretion of the Lodge. These provisions your Committee believe to be contrary to the provisions of Masonic Law—that but one ballot is necessary for a candidate to receive the three degrees, and that if a Lodge receives new information concerning the candidate relative to his past life, or his conduct since his reception, that this new knowledge must be presented to the Lodge, and that either the Lodge by its action, as such, or the Worshipful Master on his own motion, may then refuse to proceed further with the candidate. Your Committee also believe that a ballot once commenced must be concluded at the same meeting, without the intervention of other business.

The proposed By-Laws also provide that "in the absence of the Worshipful Master, the next highest officer *present*, shall preside."

This is also contrary to Masonic Law, inasmuch as the Steward might be called upon to preside over the deliberations of the Lodge.

Your Committee advise that the changes in the By-Laws be made. They find the Record correctly kept and would advise that a Charter be granted according to the request of the Petitioners.

On the twenty-first of last May a disastrous fire destroyed much of the property of this new Lodge, but they were fortunate in saving their jewels, records, Dispensation and some of their furniture. Having passed through the fire of tribulation they hope for a bright future, which your Committee believe is vouchsafed to them.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. S. GARDNER, }
N. A. THOMPSON, } Committee.
A. G. SMITH, }

The By-Laws of St. Paul's Lodge, South Boston, were referred to Bros. Robbins, Pope and Oliver, for examination, with instructions to make their report to the Grand Master.

The proceedings of Winslow Lewis Lodge, expelling EDWIN C. BAILEY of Boston, from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, "for conducting himself in a manner unbecoming and unworthy of a Mason, and in violation of his Masonic obligations," together with a communication from the accused, were presented and referred to Bros. G. W. Warren, Coolidge, R. B. Hall, Thornton, and Abbott. And this Committee having attended to the duty of their appointment, offered the following Report, which was adopted by a vote of *eighty-three* in the affirmative to *six* in the negative:—

The special Committee of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to whom were referred the proceedings of Winslow Lewis Lodge, in the matter of trial of Edwin C. Bailey, and his expulsion from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, upon the charges and specifications made against him, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to

REPORT:

That they find that the proceedings of Winslow Lewis Lodge in the trial of the charges against Edwin C. Bailey have been strictly in accordance with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, and therefore

they recommend that the doings of the said Lodge in the premises be approved and confirmed.

GEORGE WASHINGTON WARREN,
WM. D. COOLIDGE,
R. B. HALL,
SOLON THORNTON,
JOHN F. ABBOTT.

The proceedings of Mt. Tom Lodge in the case of Charles W. Parsons, were presented and referred to Bros. H. W. Warren, Thomas and Wells, who subsequently offered the following report, which was unanimously adopted :

Boston, June 8, A. L., 5864.

The special Committee to whom were referred the report of proceedings of Mt. Tom Lodge, of Holyoke, in the case of Bro. Charles W. Parsons, of that Lodge, charged with habitual drunkenness and dishonesty, have attended to that duty and beg leave to

REPORT:

That they have carefully examined the proceedings of Mount Tom Lodge, as transmitted to this Grand Lodge, that they find those proceedings to have been regularly and properly conducted, and the charge of habitual drunkenness to be fully sustained.

Your Committee therefore recommend that the proceedings of Mt. Tom Lodge of Holyoke be confirmed, and that Bro. Charles W. Parsons be suspended from Masonry for one year from April 22d, A. L. 5864.

H. W. WARREN, *for the Committee.*

At this stage of the proceedings the Grand Lodge took a recess for the purpose of allowing the Brethren present to examine several plans for a proposed Masonic structure, to be erected on the estate lately occupied by the Winthrop House. After which the Grand Lodge was called to order, when the R. W. Bro. Dean offered the following Resolution, which was adopted, with one dissenting vote:—

Resolved, That the Directors of the Corporation are hereby authorized to cause a suitable Masonic Temple to be erected on the corner of Tremont and Boylston streets in Boston, upon the site of Freemasons' Hall, recently destroyed by fire, and to raise all necessary funds by mortgages of the premises or otherwise, and to purchase any ad-

ditional land adjoining the said lot that may be necessary for the convenient location of the Temple, at the sight now owned by the Grand Lodge.

R. W. Bro. Gardner offered the following Resolution, which was adopted, viz :—

Resolved, That an additional section be added to Article 3, Part 4, which will provide that no Lodge in this jurisdiction shall confer the Entered Apprentice degree upon more than *five* candidates at one session of the Lodge.

Referred to R. W. Bro. Gardner, and W. Bros. H. W. Warren, Stearns, Muzzey, and Smith.

There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at half-past five o'clock, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, SEPT. 14, A. L. 5864.

A Quarterly Meeting of the M. W. Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Summer street, on Wednesday, September 14, A. L. 5864.

P R E S E N T.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, G. Master.

" Charles C. Dame, D. G. M.

" William S. Gardner, S. G. W.

" Benjamin Dean, J. G. W.

" John McClellan, G. Treasurer.

" Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary

" Charles L. Woodbury, C. G. Secretary.

W. Rev. William S. Studley, G. Chaplain.

" William D. Stratton, G. Marshal.

" Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. D.

" W. W. Wheildon, }

" Lovell Bicknell, } G. Stewards.

" F. Lyman Winship, }

" F. J. Foss, G. Pursuivant.

" E. D. Bancroft, G. Lecturer.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson,	District No. 1.
" William Sutton,	" No. 2.
" William F. Salmon,	" No. 3.
" H. C. Skinner,	" No. 4.
" John P. Lovell,	" No. 5.
" Rev. J. W. Dadmun,	" No. 6.
" James M. Cook,	" No. 7.
" Rev. R. S. Pope,	" No. 8.
" Henry Chickering,	" No. 9.
" Solon Thornton,	" No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form at half-past two o'clock,
P. M. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

W. Br. Wm. W. Wheildon was recognized as Proxy for Bethesda Lodge, Valparaiso.

The proceedings of Jerusalem Lodge, Northampton, in the case of J. M. Allison, and Bethesda Lodge, Valparaiso, in the case of E. J. Harley, were presented and referred to Bros. Dean, Muzzey, and Davis.

The Committee in the first case submitted the following Report, which was adopted:—

REPORT.

Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts.

Report of the Committee to whom were referred the proceedings of Jerusalem Lodge of Northampton, regarding the suspension and expulsion of Bro. John W. Allison.

In this case, though the record is not full so far as relates to the notice given to Bro. Allison, and in some other respects, he was represented by counsel who acquiesced in and assented to the proceedings, which possibly would cure any mere informalities of the doings of the Lodge, so far as relates to the suspension.

It appears, however, that after the verdict of guilty, and suspension, and at a subsequent meeting of the Lodge, without any notice to the convicted Brother, the vote of suspension was reconsidered and the punishment was changed from suspension to expulsion. The proceedings were fully concluded by the decree of suspension. The subsequent action of the Lodge was illegal and inoperative.

We are however of opinion that after the sentence of suspension of Bro. John W. Allison from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry was reconsidered, it would be irregular to confirm it here, and that the subsequent decree of Jerusalem Lodge expelling said Brother from said rights and privileges were inoperative and void. We therefore recommend that the whole matter be recommitted to Jerusalem Lodge for further action.

BENJ. DEAN,
HENRY W. MUZZEY, } *Committee.*
WM. F. DAVIS,

In the case of E. J. Harley the same Committee offered the following Report, which was adopted :

R E P O R T .

Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts.

Report of the Committee upon the proceedings of Bethesda Lodge of Valparaiso, expelling Bro. E. J. Harley from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry :

The Committee find said proceedings to have been conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, and report that, the action of said Lodge ought to be confirmed.

BENJ. DEAN,
HENRY W. MUZZEY, } *Committee.*
WM. F. DAVIS,

The records of Amity Lodge, of Danvers, and of Hayden Lodge, Brookfield, which have been working the past year under Dispensations, together with their petitions for Charters, were presented and referred to Bros. Gardner, Lewis, and Coolidge, and this Committee subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted :—

In Grand Lodge, Sept. 14, 1864.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry Brethren at Danvers, asking for a Charter authorizing them to open a Lodge at Danvers, Mass., by the name of Amity Lodge, and also the petition of certain Brethren at Brookfield, Mass., praying to be Chartered by the name of Hayden Lodge, respectfully

R E P O R T :

That they have examined the records of the petitioners while under Dispensation, and the By-Laws which they offer for approval. Each of these Dispensation Lodges appear to have done considerable work,

during their probationary year, and to have conducted themselves according to Masonic requirements and usage.

The By-Laws have been amended in some particulars by your Committee, and some provisions have been stricken out. That part in the By-Laws of Hayden Lodge, relating to the previous question was considered altogether out of place in the rules for the government of a Lodge of Masons. All Masonic authorities unite in declaring this motion to be in conflict with the power and authority of the Worshipful Master. The conduct of discussion in the Lodge is entirely in his hands, and he can stop debate or continue it at his pleasure.

The records of Amity Lodge show that the Secretary has omitted to record the full names of Brethren, styling them simply Brother Washington, for instance. This is apparently a trivial matter, but what appears unessential now, in the progress of time will be of the utmost importance. It makes the record incomplete, and renders uncertain, that which the Secretary has the power to make certain.

Your Committee recommend that Charters be granted to the petitioners, and that the By-Laws presented be approved, subject to the changes they have made.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. S. GARDNER,
WINSLOW LEWIS,
WM. D. COOLIDGE.

The Committee on the question of what constitutes a Past Master, in the meaning of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, had further time granted them.

R. W. Brother Gardner offered the following Report and Resolution:—

In Grand Lodge, Sept. 14, 5864.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution, "That an additional section be added to Article 3, Part 4, of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge," which will provide that no Lodge in this jurisdiction shall confer the Entered Apprentice degree upon more than five candidates at one session of the Lodge, respectfully

R E P O R T :

From apprehension among the Brethren that some of the Lodges were making Masons with too much haste and with too little regard to the solemn deliberations which are deemed important and necessary upon such occasions, the proposed amendment to the Constitutions was offered at the last Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, and

referred to your Committee for consideration. From examination of the old Masonic regulations and Constitutions it is evident that the amendment if adopted will be simply the restoration of a regulation which, although unwritten in the Grand Lodge Constitutions, is still in force, and binding upon every Mason so far as the same shall have come to his knowledge as one of the ancient Masonic usages with which he has solemnly promised strictly to comply.

In the Anderson Constitutions published in 1723, (fac-simile, reprint 1855,) Article 4 of the General Regulations, is this provision :—

“ No Lodge shall make more than *five new Brothers* at one time, nor any man under the age of *Twenty-five*, who must be also his own Master; unless by a Dispensation from the *Grand Master* or his *Deputy*.”

In a copy of the “ Constitutions ” revised by John Entick and printed at London in 1756, on page 309, is the following Article :—

“ No Lodge shall make more than *five new Brothers* at one and the same time, without an urgent necessity ; nor any man under the age of *Twenty-five* years, (who must be also his own Master) unless by a Dispensation from the *Grand Master*.”—Old Reg. Oct. 4.

The Constitutions compiled by Rev. T. H. Harris, a member of this Grand Lodge, published at Worcester, Mass., in 1798, and approved “ in all its parts ” by a Committee of this Grand Lodge, of which Past Grand Masters, John Cutler, Paul Revere, and Isaiah Thomas, were members, provides in Section 10, as follows :—

“ No Lodge shall make more than *Five new Brethren* at one time, unless from Dispensation from the Grand Master, or Deputy in his absence.”

At the Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge, March 1843, an order was introduced “ That it shall not be regular for any Lodge to give more than one degree to the same individual on the same day, nor at a less interval than one month from his receiving a previous degree, unless a Dispensation having been obtained therefor,” and referred to a Committee of which Grand Master Augustus Peabody was chairman.

This Committee reported at the next June Communication, and the following extracts are taken from the Report :—

“ They find that on the junction of the two Grand Lodges of England, the Grand Lodge of all England at York, and the Grand Lodge at London, which was effected in 1813, the Constitutions of the Order were revised and collated with careful and laborious investigation, with

a view to ascertain, present, and preserve the true, ancient laws and usages; for several years the investigation was prosecuted by experienced and able men, and in 1827 the work was completed, approved and published. It is now the Constitution of the United Grand Lodge of England. In that work is the following provision:—

“No Lodge shall on any pretence make more than five new Brethren in one day, unless by Dispensation, nor shall a Lodge be permitted to give more than one degree to a Brother on the same day, nor shall a higher degree in Masonry be conferred on a Brother at a less interval than one month, from his receiving a previous degree, nor until he has passed an examination in open Lodge, in that degree;” and in a note it is stated that “no Dispensation shall be granted to suspend the operation of this law.” The same provision is afterwards twice repeated in substance in the same work; the early published books of Constitutions contain similar provisions.

“In an edition of the *Ahiman Rezon*, published during the last century, in speaking of the reception of men of rank and science into the Institution, the rule is stated, that they are equally subjected to all the charges and regulations, and must be governed by the general rule.”

“No Lodge shall make more than five new Brethren at one time, unless by Dispensation, nor shall any be made or admitted a member of a Lodge, without being proposed one month,” &c.

It is entirely clear and plain that our Brethren in England do think, and in earlier times have thought, that this provision is in conformity both with ancient usage and the spirit of the work.

At a meeting of the Committee of Conference, consisting of three members of each of the Boston Lodges, held on the 29th of June last, it was unanimously resolved, among other things, “That it is expedient to revive the old Masonic Law, limiting the number of candidates upon whom degrees may be conferred at one session. And we respectfully ask the consideration of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as well as that of the several subordinate Lodges, to this point.”

The Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England and Canada still provide “That no Lodge shall, on any pretence, make more than five new Brothers in one day, unless by Dispensation, which shall specify the total number to be initiated.” A similar provision is found in the Constitutions of the Grand Lodges of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, District of Columbia, California, Oregon and Minnesota.

In the Grand Lodge of Maine in May last, it was Resolved, “That

hereafter that no Lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present at a time in the first section of either degree, and no Lodge shall confer more than five degrees at the same communication of this Lodge, or hold more than one communication upon the same day."

Your Committee therefore believe that the proposed amendment is not a change in the Masonic usage, but is simply restoring the Constitutions, rules and regulations which have been recognized as such from the earliest days of written Masonic Constitutions. Whether it was omitted from our Constitutions by accident or whether it was considered a rule so well known that it was unnecessary to be written, your Committee are ignorant. Certain it is, that in the great Masonic revival which pervades our institution this wise regulation has been repeatedly disregarded and set at naught. The fact that our Constitution is silent upon this point is pleaded in extenuation of this practice, and the ground is taken that the Constitution is so full and explicit, that there are no cases of Masonic usage and practice which are not provided for in this excellent instrument, hence the necessity for the amendment.

There is one other subject which is germane to the question now under consideration by your Committee, but which was not in exact language referred to them, and that is the matter contained in the first clause of the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Maine, above quoted, viz:—"That no Lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present at a time in the first section of either degree."

In this jurisdiction it has not been common to covenant more than one person at the same time in the first degree. Nevertheless it has been done in some Lodges, and the excuse has been given that it was practised in Boston. Your Committee believe however it has only been done in isolated cases, and that the rule is as above stated. Upon the second degree a different course has been adopted, and numerous candidates have received this degree together. Indeed it is customary to covenant at the same time as many as can be conveniently handled, provided there is occasion for it. The first section of the third degree it has also been usual to confer upon two or more.

The ancient rule and custom was to covenant but one person at a time in any degree, and the absence of any rule in relation to it in the old Constitutions and regulations is convincing that the practice was so universal in one direction, that it never was found necessary to establish any rule concerning it. This subject has attracted the attention of some of the Grand Lodges.

In 1854 the Grand Lodge of Connecticut forbade its subordinate

Lodges, to initiate, pass or raise, more than one candidate at the same time.

The same rule has been established by the Grand Lodges of Virginia, Ohio, Tennessee, Michigan, and several others.

There is no doubt that the correct practice is to confine the covenanting of candidates to one only. Wherever this is disregarded it is a departure from the ancient landmarks of the Order, and a violation of "Ancient Masonic Usage." It can never be done without destroying the impressiveness of the occasion and deleteriously affecting each one of the candidates.

Your Committee in behalf of the Grand Lodge would earnestly entreat the subordinate Lodges not to disregard this ancient Masonic usage, but to exert themselves to bring back the old well approved custom. But it is not entirely discretionary with the Lodges. The first section of the first degree, and in the second section of the third degree, there is no authority for introducing more than one candidate at a time, and it can never be done in good faith unless through ignorance. For the sake therefore of better informing the officers and Brethren of the subordinate Lodges, your Committee recommend that a provision be inserted in the Grand Constitutions which shall make this rule a Constitutional regulation. They do not believe it would now be expedient to amend the Constitutions so that not more than one person can be covenanted at the same time in either of the degrees, for the reason that in the second degree it has been universally the custom so to do, but your Committee hope that the Brethren, may see the necessity of changing this practice, and of establishing a custom which shall be binding and effective, that in no case shall more than one person be present as a candidate in the first section of either degree.

Your Committee recommend the passage of the accompanying resolution:—

Respectfully submitted,

WM. S. GARDNER, HENRY W. WARREN, HENRY W. MUZZEY, ANDREW G. SMITH,	}	Committee.
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In Grand Lodge, Sept. 14, 1864.

Resolved, That there be added to Article III., Part IV., of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the following section:

Section 10. "No Lodge shall hold more than one communication upon the same day, nor confer more than five degrees at one communication. No Lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present

at the same time, in the first section of the first degree ; nor in the second section of the third degree."

After debate the last Resolution was amended to read as follows:—

"No Lodge shall hold more than one communication on the same day, *nor confer either of the three degrees upon more than FIVE candidates at one communication.* No Lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present at the same time, in the first section of the first degree, nor in the second section of the third degree."

The Report and Resolution, as amended, were adopted.

R. W. Bro. Dean offered the following votes, which were unanimously adopted:—

Voted, That this Grand Lodge elect to hold the Estate described in a certain deed of Mortgage from the Grand Lodge to E. A. Raymond and others, Trustees, bearing date the twenty-fourth day of March, A. D. 1859, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Lib. 753, fol. 237, in fee simple, and free and relieved from said mortgage, and hereby require the Trustees holding under the mortgage to discharge said mortgage and the bond secured thereby, and convey their estate, under, and by virtue thereof, to the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That the Directors of this Grand Lodge are hereby authorized in their discretion after they shall have by mortgage or otherwise, obtained upon the security of the Real Estate of this Grand Lodge, whatever funds may be necessary to erect a Masonic Temple, to give a note to the Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund for the preservation of the Fund.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced the death of R. W. John B. Hammatt, a Past Deputy Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, at the advanced age of 86 years. He stated that the deceased was initiated in Columbian Lodge, in Boston, in the year 1800, and had sustained nearly every office in Masonry, in all its various branches and grades. For more than sixty years he had been an active, zealous and faithful Brother.

At the conclusion of the remarks of the Grand Master, he appointed a Committee on Resolutions, who subsequently offered the following Report, which was unanimously adopted, the Brethren all rising:—

In Grand Lodge, Sept. 14, 1864.

Whereas it has pleased the Supreme Architect of the Universe to re-

move, as we trust to a better world, our late Brother R. W. John B. Hammatt,

Resolved, That in his death one of the brightest lights in the Masonic horizon has been extinguished; that one of the most devoted friends of the Order has been called from among us.

Resolved, That his work has been well done, and that few, if any, in the community have done more to sustain and elevate the character of the Institution of Freemasonry, whether we refer to his Masonic efforts, or to the maintenance of that spotless character as a man, which ever sheds its lustre upon all associations with which its possessor is connected.

Resolved, That in calling to mind the virtues of our departed Brother, and his accomplishments as a Mason, which endeared him to many friends, and exalted him to the highest honors, we lament that on this occasion so little justice can be done to his memory. For his fidelity to the Order—his punctuality and attention in the path of duty—his unassuming deportment—his courteous and cordial address—his spotless integrity in business—and we have reason to believe his unfeigned meekness during a protracted Masonic career of above sixty years, deserve more than a brief resolution on such a life. But his character is written down in our memory. We knew him as among the foremost defenders of our Institution in the dark days of persecution; he has since been with us in our meridian prosperity, and to whom can we compare this noble and exemplary Mason with more fitness than to one of those *Sacred Three* whose memorial stands in our memory among the most beautiful emblems of Masonry.

Resolved, That we sincerely condole with the relations and family connections of our late deceased Brother, and that we tender to them the assurance of our participation in their sorrow.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of the Grand Lodge, and that an attested copy thereof be sent to the family of our deceased Brother.

ABRAHAM H. DANA,
JOHN R. BRADFORD,
JOHN H. SHEPPARD.

The Grand Master also announced the death of Worshipful Brother Col. P. Stearns Davis, Master of Putnam Army Lodge, No. 8, who was killed in front of Petersburg on the 12th of July, 1864, and ap-

pointed as a Committee on Resolutions, Bros. Baker, Ames, and H. W. Warren, who subsequently offered the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :—

It has pleased Almighty God, in his wise but inscrutable Providence to remove by death from family and friends, from this Institution he so much loved and from his country in whose defence he so gallantly died, our beloved friend and Brother, W. Prentice Stearns Davis, formerly a member of this Grand Lodge, who was killed on the 12th of July in front of Petersburg, while in command of his regiment, and whereas a visitation so sudden and severe has filled our hearts, therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. Davis we mourn the loss of an estimable man; a good citizen; an accomplished Mason, and tried friend; and in the sacred domestic relations, a true and affectionate father, husband and Brother.

Resolved, That we recall with melancholy pleasure that death will but serve to intensify those characteristic virtues and distinctive qualities which graced our Brother and caused the tidings of his death to carry general gloom through the community. We reverence his noble and unselfish mind and character, his inflexibility of purpose, prompt to originate and thorough to accomplish; his lofty patriotism and sense of duty that led him at the call of his country to leave a young and tender family to brave the perils of a fierce and bloody war, and finally that retiring and modest disposition and deportment which withheld him from seeking preference and preferment, leaving it to others to draw him forth for promotion and advancement rather than seem to exalt himself.

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. Davis, the Institution is deprived of the society and services of one who has done much by his influence and example to raise the standard of our Order, who loved it for what it had done for him, and what in his opinion it is capable of doing for others, and who believed too that the truths and lessons taught at the Masonic altar would make one a better man and better citizen, and what was more desirable, would meet the constant approval of his own conscience.

Resolved, That our sympathies are with the widow and orphans in this their affliction, and while directing their thoughts and our own for consolation to a higher than earthly source, we with them find comfort in the pleasant remembrances of our Brother—his affectionate heart

and generous nature, his active and useful life, his noble and heroic death.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. W. BAKER,
P. ADAMS AMES,
HENRY W. WARREN, } *Committee.*

The Grand Master likewise announced the death of R. W. Brother Edw. A. Raymond, a Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and appointed R. W. Bros. Randall, Coolidge and Sheppard, a Committee on Resolutions, and this Committee subsequently offered the following, which were unanimously adopted:—

The Committee appointed to present Resolutions on the death of the late R. W. Edw. A. Raymond, present the following

R E P O R T :

It having pleased the All-wise Ruler of the Universe, to remove from the labors of earth, our late R. W. Bro. Edw. A. Raymond,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge has heard with profound sorrow, the announcement of the sudden death of the R. W. Edw. A. Raymond, who for many years has been a permanent member of this Body—and who for the Constitutional term of three successive years, presided over its deliberations, as its M. W. G. Master.

Resolved, That in the faithful discharge of his duties as S. G. Warden, and as Grand Master, for nearly a quarter of a century, as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Temple, he has richly earned a title to the grateful remembrance of his Brethren.

Resolved, That his unfaltering fidelity during his long Masonic life, of almost half a century, to the cause of Freemasonry, and his manly defence of its principles during the dark days of antimasonic persecution, will enshrine his name among the loyal and the true, whom the Craft, in coming generations, will ever delight to honor.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathise with the afflicted family of our lamented Brother, and while with them, we bow submissively to the Divine decree which has bereaved them and us—we receive the admonition, with the hope of that blessed resurrection, when the mortal shall put on immortality.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transcribed by the Secretary and furnished to the family of our late Brother.

GEORGE M. RANDALL,
WM. D. COOLIDGE,
JOHN H. SHEPPARD.

There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form at half-past five o'clock.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE
OF
THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE,
OCTOBER 14, 1864.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

A Special Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, on Friday, October 14, A. L. 5864, for the purpose of laying the CORNER-STONE of a new Masonic Temple, on the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, in Boston.

P R E S E N T .

[The officers and members of the Grand Lodge as given elsewhere.]

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at 10 o'clock, A. M., by the M. W. William Parkman; prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Marshal reported at 11 o'clock, that the procession was formed and ready to move.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was escorted to Boston Common by Calvary Encampment of Knights Templars; this body having been tendered the Grand Master, as a Guard of Honor for the occasion.

The Escort was composed of the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and its Subordinates, and was a brilliant portion of the procession. The Grand Encampment was in full array as a complete military organization, and numbered 755. The column marched in the following order:—

Band of the 11th U. S. Infantry.

- M. E. Sir WILLIAM S. GARDNER**, Grand Master.
M. E. Sir BENJAMIN B. FRENCH, Grand Master of Templars in the
 United States, as guest of the Grand Encampment.
R. E. Sir Charles H. Titus, Deputy Grand Master.
R. E. Sir William W. Baker, Grand Generalissimo.
R. E. Sir John Eldred, as Grand Captain General.
R. E. Sir F. William B. Blanding, Grand Sword Bearer.
R. E. Sir Gardner T. Swartz, Grand Standard Bearer.
R. E. Sir William F. Salmon, Grand Warder.
R. E. Sir Nathan H. Gould, Grand Captain of the Guards.

Permanent Members of the Grand Encampment,*

- R. E. Sir John F. Fellows**, as Senior Grand Warden.

- St. John's Encampment**, Providence, R. I., **Sir Daniel Round, Jun.**,
 Generalissimo, Commanding.

Hall's Brass Band.

- Boston Encampment**, Boston, Mass., **M. E. Sir John K. Hall**, Grand
 Commander.

- Washington Encampment**, Newport, R. I., **M. E. Sir John Eldred**,
 Grand Commander.

- Worcester County Encampment**, represented by several members.

- Springfield Encampment**, Springfield, Mass., **M. E. Sir Isaac D. Gibbons**,
 Grand Commander.

- De Molay Encampment**, Boston, Mass., **Sir William F. Davis**, Gen-
 eralissimo, Commanding.

- Holy Sepulchre Encampment**, Pawtucket, R. I.; represented by sev-
 eral members.

Dunstable Cornet Band.

- Pilgrim Encampment**, Lowell, Mass., **M. E. Sir Joseph Bedlow**,
 Grand Commander.

Germania Band.

- Palestine Encampment**, Chelsea, Mass., **M. E. Sir Charles M. Avery**,
 Grand Commander.

Milford Brass Band.

- Milford Encampment**, Milford, Mass., **M. E. Sir Isaac Britton**, Grand
 Commander.

- St. Bernard Encampment**, Boston, Mass., represented by several of
 its members.

*Among whom was the venerable **Sir James Salisbury**, of Providence, R. I.,
 wearing the regalia of **Sir Thomas Smith Webb**, first Grand Master.

Haverhill Brass Band.

Haverhill Encampment, Haverhill, Mass., M. E. Sir George W.
Chase, Grand Commander.

Weymouth Cornet Band.

Old Colony Encampment, Abington, Mass., M. E. Sir William W.
Whitmarsh, Grand Commander.

R. E. Sir Charles A. Stott, *as* Junior Grand Warden.

THE LODGES.

W. WILLIAM D. STATTON, Grand Marshal.

John Kent.	•	{	Josiah W. Chamberlain.
Frank Bush, Jr.		Aids }	William T. Eustis, 3d.

Band.

Hope, Gardner, Levi Haywood, W. Master.

Somerset, Somerset, Elbridge G. Paul, W. Master.

Amity, Danvers, Albert W. Howe, W. Master.

Mount Olivet, Cambridge, Henry W. Muzzey, W. Master.

Blue Hill, Canton, J. Mason Everett, W. Master.

Aberdeen, Boston, Chas. J. Danforth, W. Master.

Orient, South Dedham, Warren H. Billings, W. Master.

Dalhousie, Newton, Cephas Brigham, W. Master.

John Hancock, Methuen, James O. Parker, W. Master.

Cornet Band.

John Cutler, Abington, James F. Cox, W. Master.

Hammatt, East Boston, John G. Hazlett, W. Master.

Henry Price, Charlestown, G. A. Loundsbery, W. Master.

United Brethren, Marlborough, Burleigh Morse, W. Master.

Montecute, Worcester, Benjamin Lewis, W. Master.

John Abbot, Somerville, Thomas H. Lord, W. Master.

Mount Vernon, Malden, Wm. H. Richardson, W. Master.

Webster, Webster, Horace J. Joslin, W. Master.

Trinity, Clinton, Levi Greene *as* W. Master.

Boston Brigade Band.

Paul Revere, North Bridgewater, Chas. C. Bixby, W. Master.

Pequosset, Watertown, Thos. N. Hooper, W. Master.

Wyoming, Melrose, D. Corten, W. Master.

Joseph Warren, Boston, J. Francis Lotts, W. Master.

Revere, Boston, W. Rogers, W. Master.

Winslow Lewis, Boston, Andrew G. Smith, W. Master.

Gate of the Temple, South Boston, Benjamin Pope, W. Master.
 Putnam, East Cambridge, David P. Cummings, W. Master.
 Mount Horeb, West Harwich, J. K. Baker, Jr., W. Master.

Gilmore's Band.

Mount Horeb, Woburn, Horace Collamore, W. Master.
 Germania, Boston, Anton Moeldner, W. Master.
 Baalbec, East Boston, Thomas A. Foster, W. Master.
 Franklin, Grafton, George F. Slocumb, W. Master.
 Ashler, Rockport, Samuel York, W. Master.
 Ancient York, Lowell, Josiah E. Short, Jr., W. Master.
 Saint Paul, South Boston, N. A. Apollonio, W. Master.
 Mount Tabor, East Boston, Frederick W. Dunbar, W. Master.
 Star of Bethlehem, Chelsea, Chas. F. Haynes, W. Master.

Metropolitan Brass Band.

Grecian, Lawrence, James R. Simpson, W. Master.
 Orphan's Hope, Weymouth, A. Albrook, W. Master.
 Plymouth, Plymouth, W. S. Danforth, W. Master.
 Mount Hope, Fall River, Chas. A. Holmes, W. Master.
 Liberty, Beverly, David S. Shattuck, W. Master.
 Saint Matthew, Andover, David Howarth, W. Master.
 Monitor, Waltham, Hiram M. Britton, W. Master.
 Norfolk Union, Randolph, J. White Belcher, W. Master.
 Saint Albans, Foxboro', Wm. R. Thomas, W. Master.

Mount Hope Brass Band.

Bethesda, Brighton, C. H. B. Breck, W. Master.
 Mystic, Pittsfield, George W. Dutton, W. Master.
 Pentucket, Lowell, Hiram N. Hall, Past Master.
 Amicable, Cambridgeport, Henry Endicott, W. Master.
 Mount Carmel, Lynn, James A. Austin, Past Master.
 Saint Mark, Newburyport, Wm. P. Sanders, W. Master.
 Merrimack, Haverhill, D. B. Tenney, Past Master.
 Rural, Quincy, Edwin S. Bradford, W. Master.
 Fraternal, Barnstable, George J. Miller, W. Master.

Morse's Brass Band.

Aurora, Fitchburg, Henry T. Pratt, W. Master.
 Mount Lebanon, Boston, John F. Abbott, W. Master.
 Mount Zion, Barre, C. C. Hemenway, W. Master.
 Rising Star, Stoughton, Jona. R. Gay, W. Master.

King David, Taunton, J. J. Whitmarsh, W. Master.
 Marine, Falmouth, Wm. Hewins, W. Master.
 Meridian, Natick, James H. Parker, W. Master.
 Hiram, West Cambridge, Wm. H. Pattee, W. Master.
 Olive Branch, Sutton, John E. Bacon *as* Master.

Brass Band.

Saint Paul's, Groton, Hibbard P. Ross, W. Master.
 Montgomery, Milford, Henry C. Skinner, W. Master.
 Fellowship, Bridgewater, Fisher A. Sprague, W. Master.
 Bristol, Attleborough, Chas. E. Smith, W. Master.
 Union, Dorchester, Wm. T. Adams, W. Master.
 Columbian, Boston, Henry W. Warren, W. Master.
 Washington, Roxbury, George Frost, W. Master.
 Evening Star, Lee, Eliphalet Wright, W. Master.
 Morning Star, Worcester, Chas. G. Reed, W. Master.

Boston Cornet Band.

Old Colony, Hingham, E. Waters Burr, W. Master.
 King Solomon, Charlestown, Edward S. Coombs, W. Master.
 Essex, Salem, Henry A. Brown, W. Master.
 Massachusetts, Boston, Alfred S. Chapman, W. Master.
 Tyrian, Gloucester, John Loyd, W. Master.
 Saint John, Newburyport, Nicholas Johnson, W. Master.
 Philanthropic, Marblehead, Michael J. Doak, W. Master.
 Saint Andrew, Boston, Edward Stearns, W. Master.
 Saint John, Boston, James A. Fox, W. Master.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

Salem Brass Band.

Sutton R. A. Chapter, Lynn, M. E. Alonzo F. Bethen, High Priest.
 Washington R. A. Chapter, Salem, M. E. James Kimball, H. Priest.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF MASSACHUSETTS.

E. Luther L. Tarbell, Grand Sentinel.
 E. L. B. Meston, *as* Grand Secretary.
 E. J. J. Hemes, *as* Grand Treasurer.
 E. John Green, *as* Grand R. A. Captain.
 E. Rev. John P. Robinson, Grand Chaplain.
 E. T. H. Emmons, Grand Captain of Host.
 E. E. M. Mitchell, *as* Grand Scribe.

E. Ebenezer Tolman, *as* Grand King.

E. John A. Goodwin, *as* Deputy Grand High Priest.

M. E. SOLON THORNTON, Grand High Priest of Massachusetts.

American Brass Band of Providence.

Calvary Encampment of Providence, R. I., (acting as Guard of Honor to the M. W. Grand Lodge,) Sir Levi L. Webster, Generalissimo, Commanding.
Knights in Companies.

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Brother Eben F. Gay, Grand Tyler.

" S. B. Ball,	} Grand Choristers.
" W. H. Kent,	
" F. A. Hall,	
" C. G. Jackman,	

W. J. K. Hayward,	} G. Lecturers.
" E. D. Bancroft,	

" Henry L. Dalton,	} G. Pursuivants.
" F. J. Foss,	

" Lovell Bicknell,	} G. Stewards.
" Henry Tabor, 2d,	
" W. W. Wheildon,	

" Henry Mulliken, J. G. D.

" Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. D.

" Rev. William S. Studley, G. Chaplain.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Newell A. Thompson,	District No, 12.
" Solon Thornton,	" No. 11.
" Henry Chickering,	" No. 9.
" Rev. R. S. Pope,	" No. 8.
" James M. Cook,	" No. 7.
" Rev. J. W. Dadmun,	" No. 6.
" John P. Lovell,	" No. 5.
" C. L. Chamberlin,	" No. 4.
" William F. Salmon,	" No. 3.
" William Sutton,	" No. 2.
" Sereno D. Nickerson,	" No. 1.

R. W. Charles L. Woodbury, Cor. G. Secretary.

" Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary.

" John McClellan, G. Treasurer.

" Daniel Reynolds, Past J. Grand Warden.

R. W. Isaac H. Wright, Past J. Grand Warden.

" John R. Bradford, Past J. Grand Warden.

" John Hews, Past J. Grand Warden.

" William North, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Joel Spalding, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Lorenzo H. Gamwell, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Henry Goddard, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Bradford L. Wales, Past S. Grand Warden.

" William C. Plunkett, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Daniel Harwood, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Robert Keith, Past S. Grand Warden.

" Thomas Tolman, Past S. Grand Warden.

" R. T. Clinch D. G. Master of G. Lodge of N. Brunswick.

" G. Washington Warren, Past Deputy Grand Master.

" Rev. E. M. P. Wells, Past Deputy Grand Master.

" George G. Smith, Past Deputy Grand Master.

" Abraham A. Dame, Past Deputy Grand Master.

" William D. Coolidge, Past Grand Master.

" Winslow Lewis, Past Grand Master.

" Simon W. Robinson, Past Grand Master.

" Benjamin Dean, Junior Grand Warden.

" Charles Robbins, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.

" Charles C. Dame, Deputy Grand Master.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.

W. F. L. Winship, Grand Sword Bearer.

Knights of Calvary Encampment, in Companies.

Invited Guests and aged Brethren of the Fraternity, in Carriages.

THE MARCH

Began at about 12 o'clock, and the Procession, moving at *quick step*, passed over the route in a little less than two hours—starting from the Common, as above, and passing through Winter, Summer, Otis, Devonshire, Milk, Broad, State, Court, Tremont, and Beacon streets, and entering the Common at Charles street Mall, thence passing through Beacon, Park and Tremont street Malls, to the site of the New Temple. The whole distance was probably three miles, and it was observed that when the rear portion of the Procession was leaving the Common, the head of it had returned to the starting place.

On the arrival of the head of the Procession at the site of the new building, the whole was opened to the right and left, and the M. W.

Grand Master, and members of the Grand Lodge, with the Lodges according to seniority, passed through the open lines and wheeled upon the immense platform, prepared for their reception, and where the ceremonies took place as follows :—

CEREMONIES.

MUSIC BY GILMORE'S BAND, BOSTON.

OPENING.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden: The Grand Lodge having been assembled for the purpose of Laying the Corner-Stone of the New Masonic Temple here to be erected, it is my order the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge be now opened for the performance of that important ceremony. This my will and pleasure you will communicate to the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, and he to the Brethren present, that all having due notice may govern themselves accordingly.

Senior Grand Warden. Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden: It is the order of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, that this Corner-Stone be now laid with Masonic honors. This his will and pleasure you will proclaim to all present, that the occasion may be observed with due order and solemnity.

Junior Grand Warden. Brethren, and all who are present, take notice, that the Most Worshipful Grand Master will now deposit this Foundation-Stone in Masonic form. You will observe the order and decorum becoming the important and solemn ceremonies in which we are about to engage.

PRAYER BY R. W. REV. J. W. DADMUN.

HYMN.

Great Architect of earth and heaven,
By time nor space confined,
Enlarge our love to comprehend,
Our Brethren, all mankind.

Where'er we are, whate'er we do,
Thy presence let us own;
Thine Eye, all-seeing, marks our deeds,
To Thee all thoughts are known.

While nature's works, and science's laws
 We labor to reveal,
 Oh be our duty done to Thee
 With fervency and zeal.

With *Faith* our guide, and humble *Hope*,
 Warm *Charity* and *Love*,
 May all at last be raised to share
 Thy perfect light above.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer: You will read the inscription on the Plate which is to be deposited under the Foundation-Stone.

THE GRAND TREASURER HERE READ THE INSCRIPTION AS FOLLOWS:

This Corner-Stone of a New Masonic Temple for the use of the Grand Lodge and Fraternity of Freemasons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was laid with Public Masonic Ceremonies, and in the presence of the Executive Officers of the State and City, by the Most Worshipful WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., Grand Master, on the 14th day of October, A. L. 5864, A. D. 1864.

Officers of the Grand Lodge, A. L. 5864:—M. W. William Parkman, G. Master; R. W. Charles C. Dame, D. G. Master; R. W. William S. Gardner, S. G. Warden; R. W. Benj. Dean, J. G. Warden; R. W. John McClellan, G. Treas.; R. W. Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary; R. W. C. Levi Woodbury, C. G. Secretary.

District Deputy Grand Masters:—R. W. S. D. Nickerson, District 1. William Sutton, District 2. W. F. Salmon, District 3. C. D. Chamberlain, District 4. J. P. Lovell, District 5. J. W. Dadmun, District 6. James M. Cook, District 7. R. S. Pope, District 8. Henry Chickering, District 9. E. P. Graves, District 10. Solon Thornton, District 11. Newell A. Thompson, District 12. George H. Kendall, for Chili, S. America.

W. Rev. Wm. T. Alger, Rev. Wm. S. Studley, Grand Chaplains; Wm. D. Stratton, G. Marshal; Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. Deacon; Henry Mulliken, J. G. Deacon; P. Adams Ames, G. Sword Bearer; W. W. Wheildon, Henry Taber, 2d, Lovell Bicknell, Francis L. Winship, G. Stewards; Edward D. Bancroft, L. H. Gamwell, J. K. Hayward, G. Lecturers; Brother Eben F. Gay, G. Tyler.

Board of Directors:—M. W. Wm. Parkman, R. W. Wm. S. Gardner, Benjamin Dean, Charles W. Moore, Winalow Lewis, John T. Heard, Wm. D. Coolidge, G. Washington Warren, William North.

Building Committee:—William Parkman, Charles W. Moore, Benjamin Dean, John T. Heard.

President of the United States, ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Governor of Massachusetts, JOHN A. ANDREW. Mayor of Boston, FREDERICK W. LINCOLN, JR.

M. G. WHEERLOCK, Architect.

Grand Lodge of Massachusetts founded A. L. 5733, A. D. 1733 HENRY PRICE, Esq., First Grand Master.

CONTENTS OF THE BOX.

1. Constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.
2. Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1862 and 1863.
3. *Freemasons' Magazine*, with a description of the New Building.
4. *Freemasons' Magazine*, containing an account of the burning of the Winthrop House and Freemasons' Hall, April 6, 1864.
5. Moore's Address on the Early History of Freemasonry in America.
6. Declaration of the Freemasons of Boston and vicinity, in 1831.
7. Photograph of the New Freemasons' Hall, by Chapman.
8. Ordinances and Public Documents of the Cities of Boston, Roxbury, Cambridge, Charlestown and Lowell.
9. Coins of the United States.
10. Newspapers of the day.
11. Historical sketches of the Grand Encampment, and of its Subordinate organizations.
12. Proceedings of Bunker Hill Monument Association for 1861, 1862, 1863 and 1864.

Grand Master. There being no objection, I now order you, Brother Grand Treasurer, to deposit the Plate, with the Papers, in the place prepared for their reception.

[MUSIC BY THE BAND DURING THE CEREMONY OF MAKING THE DEPOSIT.]

The principal Architect then presented the Working Tools to the Grand Master, who directed the Grand Marshal to present them to the Deputy Grand Master, and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens.

The Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, then descended from the platform; the Grand Master taking the Trowel, the Deputy Grand Master the Square, the Senior Grand Warden the Level, and the Junior Grand Warden the Plumb, the Gr. Master standing at the *East* of the Stone, his Deputy on his right, the Senior Grand Warden at the *West*, and the Junior Grand Warden at the *South* side of the Stone. The Grand Master then spread the cement; and when that was done, he directed the Grand Marshal to order the Craftsmen to lower the stone. [This was done by three motions, viz:—1st, by lowering a few inches and stopping, when the *public* Grand Honors were given; 2d, again lowering a few inches, and giving Grand Honors; 3d, letting the stone down to its place and giving the Grand Honors as before. The Square, Level and Plumb were then applied to the Stone by the proper officers.]

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master: What is the proper Jewel of your office?

Deputy Grand Master. The Square.

Grand Master. Have you applied the Square to those parts of the Stone that should be square?

Deputy Grand Master. I have, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden: What is the proper Jewel of your office?

Senior Grand Warden. The Level.

Grand Master. Have you applied the Level to the Stone?

Senior Grand Warden. I have, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

Grand Master. Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden: What is the proper Jewel of your office?

Junior Grand Warden. The Plumb.

Grand Master. Have you applied the Plumb to the several edges of the Stone?

Junior Grand Warden. I have, Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the Craftsmen have done their duty.

Grand Master. Having full confidence in your skill in the Royal Art, it remains with me now to finish the work.

The Grand Master then gave three knocks upon the Stone, saying—

“I find this Foundation-Stone well formed, true and trusty, and may this undertaking be conducted and completed by the Craftsmen according to the grand plan, in Peace, Love and Harmony.”

“Know all of you who hear me. We proclaim ourselves free and lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, professing to fear God, and to confer benefits on mankind. We practice universal beneficence towards all. We have secrets concealed from the eyes of men which may not be revealed to any but Masons, and which no cowl has yet discovered; they are, however, lawful and honorable. Unless our Craft was good and our calling honest, these secrets would not have existed for so many generations, nor should we have had so many illustrious personages as Brethren of our Order, always ready to sanction our proceedings and contribute to our welfare. We are assembled in the broad face of open day, under the canopy of Heaven, to build a Temple for Masonry. May God prosper our handiwork as it shall

most please Him. May this Temple become a place wherein just and upright Masons may practice benevolence, promote harmony and cultivate Brotherly love, until they shall all assemble in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns forever."

Grand Chaplain, (Rev. Wm. S. Studley.) "May the Almighty Architect of the Universe, who disposes of all things according to the excellency of His will; who made the Heavens for His majesty, the sun and stars for His glory, and the earth as our place of existence and obedience to His laws, look down on us, His servants, Master Masons, endeavoring, in the bonds of love, according to the rules of charity, to build a house for His worship. And may this house, when completed, be a fit habitation for worthy men to meet together and do good. May the secret assemblies of Freemasons convened here, according to law, be conducted in honor, and result in charity. May every Mason who enters under the roof of this intended building remember that the secrets of the Lord our God are with them that fear Him. May this good work prosper. May the workmen be comforted. May no strife, brawling, or unseemly words, be heard within the walls. May the Master love the Brethren, and Brethren honor the Master. May the coming in and going out of the Brethren be blessed forevermore. May there be plenteousness here, and the voice of thanksgiving ever heard. May no mourning or sorrow of heart be known. May the true wayfaring Mason find comfort in his journey when he tarrieth for a time within the gates of this house.

"Oh, Lord God, Great Architect and Grand Geometrician of the Universe, prosper Thou our work. Permit us at all times and in all places to build up Thy holy temple in our hearts and souls, with the beauty of true holiness, so that we may, by faith and good works, ultimately arrive at that glorious mansion, where all things are indeed perfect—where there shall be no more labor, no more sorrow, but love, joy, peace, rejoicing and happiness forevermore."

The Deputy Grand Master then received from the Grand Marshal the Cornucopia containing Corn, and spread the corn upon the Stone, saying:—

"May the health of the workmen employed in this undertaking, be preserved to them, and may the Supreme Grand Architect bless and prosper their labors."

When once of old, in Israel,
Our early Brethren wrought with toil,

Jehovah's blessing on them fell
In showers of CORN, and WINE and OIL.

The Grand Marshal then presented the Senior Grand Warden the cup of Wine, who poured it upon the Stone, saying:—

“ May plenty be showered down upon the people of this ancient Commonwealth, and may the blessings of the Bounteous Giver of All Things, attend all their philanthropic undertakings.”

When there a shrine to Him alone
They built, with worship sin to foil,
On threshold and on corner-stone
They poured out CORN, and WINE and OIL.

The Grand Marshal presented the cup of Oil to the Junior Grand Warden, who poured it upon the Stone, saying:—

“ May the Supreme Ruler of the World preserve this people in Peace, and vouchsafe to them the enjoyment of every blessing.”

And we have come, fraternal bands,
With joy and pride and prosperous spoil,
To honor Him by votive hands
With streams of CORN, and WINE and OIL.

Grand Master. “ May Corn, Wine and Oil, and all the necessities of life, abound among men throughout the world; and may the blessing of Almighty God be upon this undertaking, and may the structure here to be erected be preserved to the latest ages, in order that it may promote the humane purposes for which it is designed.”

The Grand Master then presented the Implements to the Architect, saying:—

“ To you, Brother Architect, are confided the implements of operative Masonry, with the fullest confidence that by your skill and taste, a fabric shall arise, which shall add new lustre to our honored Commonwealth. May it endure for many ages, a monument of the liberality and benevolence of its founders.”

MUSIC BY THE BAND.

ORATION BY BR. HON. ROBERT B. HALL, OF PLYMOUTH.

The solemn and significant rites we have just witnessed, inaugurate the commencement of a new Temple for Masonry in this, her most ancient seat, on the American Continent. On this stone, now firmly laid, tried by the plumb, the level and square—overspread in mystic ceremony with corn, and wine, and oil—and consecrated by prayer to the

Supreme Architect of the Universe, will rise a magnificent pile, honorable to our Fraternity and ornamental to this city.

We have gathered here in festal array to celebrate this auspicious event with fitting pomp and grateful joy. We come from all parts of this Jurisdiction to join with our venerable mother, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, now crowned with the wreaths of more than a hundred and thirty summers—to-day more stately and vigorous than ever—in this act which proclaims her prosperous energy. This imposing pageant is in her honor, and proclaims the lively interest of the Fraternity in the advancement and glory of our Order.

Thirty-four years ago, this day, the foundations of the old Temple were laid, and that building was supposed to be on a scale sufficient for the wants of generations to come. But, in this brief space, Masonry has outgrown its accommodations, and it was disposed of in 1858 for other uses. Since then the Grand Lodge has occupied temporary apartments, though for the last three years under her own roof. It seems but yesterday since the destroying angel hovered over this spot and consumed our tabernacle with his fiery breath. Already we triumph over these disastrous ashes. Undismayed by calamity, and buoyant with hope, we commence the erection of a suitable and permanent home for the Craft. Let the walls of this Temple rise in solid grandeur till its pinnacles salute the skies! And from this time till it shall crumble into decay let it be sacred to the mysteries and the work of Masonry.

The short time, necessarily allotted to this address in the programme for the day, precludes any elaborate historical account of our Order, and anything like a critical and philosophical analysis of its Constitution and influence. The remarks, therefore, which will be made on these subjects will be cursory and brief.

The Institution of Masonry has come down to us in its principles and spirit, if not in form, from a remote antiquity. Its vestiges may be traced, veiled in the mists of the dim past, faint and shadowy and obscure it may be, but yet speaking witnesses to its ancient claims. At what particular age of the world its light was first revealed it is difficult to determine; but the field of investigation is ample, and materials are not wanting to develop probable conjectures. There are at least sufficient resemblances between Masonry and the most ancient societies in Phœnicia, Chaldea and Egypt to suggest their common origin, and such points of resemblance to the oldest Mysteries as to render probable an affinity with them. Masonry, as now organized, is believed to be of Jewish origin on the authority of its own traditions,

and from internal evidence well understood by the Craft. The erection of the Temple on Mount Moriah by Solomon, King of Israel, was an occasion of the assemblage of bands of "cunning artificers," especially from Tyre, at Jerusalem. While the Temple was building, the workmen are said to have been formed into a community under a system of rules designed to facilitate perfection and efficiency in their art, and to promote their common interests. This organization was destined to survive the occasion which brought them together. At the completion of the Temple the Craftsmen travelled in other lands where their skill might find employment. Their monuments are to be found in the ruins of temples and theatres which they erected in Phœnicia, Greece and Rome, until the era of Christianity. Soon after this period traces of their history appear in public records, as well as in their works. In the middle ages, Masonry culminated in its greatest glory. It was patronized by the Throne and Church, and overspread Europe with its marvels of architectural skill and beauty. At this date we have precise information in regard to these societies, and but little is left to conjecture as to their nature and organization. They were schools of instruction in architecture and cognate science, and fraternities for mutual protection and relief. They used a symbolical language derived from the practice of their profession; they possessed the means of mutual recognition, and were bound together by secret obligations.

At an early period these societies were endowed with special privileges as a corporation of builders, and became exempt from all local and civil jurisdiction. At length, and by degrees, many persons of eminence, not of the Craft, chiefly ecclesiastics, became associated with them from a desire to obtain the secret knowledge they possessed, and participate in their privileges. This admixture of a superior class as "accepted" Masons soon became potential; and as the knowledge of the art of building spread beyond the limits of the society, the speculative element gradually predominated. In England, however, it appears that the Freemasons, under their ancient organization, which dates from the time of Athelstane, continued as a body to erect public buildings until the rebuilding of London and the completion of St. Paul's Cathedral, under the mastership of Sir Christopher Wren. It was as late as 1717 that the ancient Lodges remaining in London united to form a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. In 1733 the Grand Lodge, in whose presence we now stand, was organized under English authority as the first Grand Lodge in America, and constitutes the link of our connection with the illustrious past of our Order.

We are proud of our descent, as Masons, from an ancestry so renowned and venerable. Our fathers wrought to embellish the earth with exquisite forms of material beauty, and reared with patient toil those stately edifices which overspread the old world with elegance and grace. The memorials of their genius and skill compel the homage of admiring generations, and their fame will endure forever.

But the claims of Masonry to our respect are not founded chiefly on the service it has rendered to the useful and ornamental arts of life. The forms of architectural beauty and design may vanish, but the spirit which informed them still survives with the Craft, and dignifies and hallows our work. Our Order no longer hews and squares the rough ashlar for the builder's use, but essays the nobler work of fashioning living stones for the use of the Great Architect himself. We cease to employ the coarse implements which were once the instrument of manual toil, wielded by brawney arms and with sweating brow. The forms of these we preserve; but with us they are spiritualized as emblematical teachers of a pure morality. The Plumb, the Level and the Square repose upon our altars still; but in jewelled majesty, to be used only by the gloved hand to symbolize the highest truths as instruments of human improvement.

It is natural to respect Masonry for its antiquity. But it claims our reverence also because it is the only one of the old societies which history records, which has survived the wreck of time. Masonry is the only purely human institution which has withstood the never ceasing tide of change in the world's affairs. In imperishable strength and dignity it has endured like the rock, while the current has passed by, sweeping into oblivion systems, dynasties and institutions, some of them as ancient as herself, and once the object of pride and admiration.

It is natural to inquire what there is in Masonry which will account for its permanency thus far, and promises to secure its perpetuity. Why is it that its light that glimmered in early darkness should shine in increasing lustre through the ages, and in the nineteenth century glow in full effulgence? How is it that with no sign of decrepitude or decay, Masonry, with unpalsied hand, yet holds the sceptre of her Royal Art in increasing empire? The answer must be sought in some peculiarity of constitution; for no miracle has been wrought in her behalf. She has been subjected to the same series of circumstances as other institutions now numbered with things that were, with no external shield against the wreck of time. In her own symbolical language she is said to be supported by pillars of WISDOM, STRENGTH and

BEAUTY. On this hint we propose to dwell, and a brief interpretation of this language, in an enlarged sense, may reveal the secret of her stability and power.

The **WISDOM** of Masonry is exemplified in her establishing her basis on the immutable foundation of Truth. Her cardinal principle is belief in the existence of God. All other truths correlative with belief in Deity have a place in her system. The Bible, as the source and standard of Truth, is exalted on her altars as her first Great Light, and all her moral teachings are but beams of its brightness. While Masonry makes no pretensions as a system of religion, and, least of all, prefers a claim to be a substitute for Christianity, she humbly walks by its side in a strict alliance, as far as she goes. In her speculative form she is as exact in her teachings of moral truth as was operative Masonry in mathematical science. Her propositions admit of no dispute. She wisely confines herself to simple, absolute and acknowledged truth, and leaves no margin for controversy or contradiction. She inculcates virtue and dissuades from vice, but has no casuistical refinements to perplex and divide her followers. Masonry from her plane furnishes the most ample facilities for the investigation of truth. Whoever stands with her there breathes an atmosphere of unrestricted liberality, for her toleration is as boundless in matters of opinion as her rule is imperative in fundamental faith. Anchored in her principles, fast by the throne of God, inculcating in her first step a loving trust in Him, and accepting His law as the embodiment of truth, she excludes no one from a participation in her benefits on account of diversity in religious views. Her gates are closed against the atheist only. The shackles fall from the hands of Prejudice and Bigotry at the entrance to her shrine. When the well known words are spoken which, like the proclamation of the mystagogue at Eleusis, closes the door of her sanctuary on the profane, the truths in which all agree are the only lessons which are taught. In her sacred retreat every discordant voice is hushed, and the bitterness of sectarian strife is abashed into silence in the awful presence of pure and absolute truth. On any other platform than this she could not comprehend in her embrace all the tribes of men, as the human race now exists, or has ever existed. It is the recognition of these principles and the acknowledgment of corresponding obligations which alone render it possible to make her privileges available to the whole of the great human family. If she should require any other creed than that God is our Father and that men are His children, and therefore bound to love Him and one another, her grand object would be at once defeated. Hence, while every

Mason retains his religious peculiarities, the Jew, the Turk, the Aborigines of the forest and the Christian may fraternize in the recognition of a common bond, and demand and receive mutual benefits.

The perfect adaption of our Order to the nature and wants of man is strongly indicative of the wisdom of its Constitution. Its whole energies have been devoted to the interests of humanity. Next to allegiance to God, and springing from it, its controlling principle, is love for man as man. Before the era of Christianity we know of no other system of morals or philosophy, of religion or politics, which presents this bold peculiarity of Freemasonry. Individual interests seem to have been nearly or quite overlooked by the sages and governors who sought to rule the world by philosophies, or by power. In the republics of Greece and Rome, confessedly the best developments of civilization in ancient times, the interests of humanity were by no means predominant. In the Roman republic the boast of being a Roman citizen had little meaning except as a defense against the exactions of foreign domination. The man was not esteemed of value except as part of the Commonwealth. Individual rights were neither sacred or respected as inalienable. Greece never saw the day, though she boasted the Academy, when the many were not virtually the slaves of the few; and her vaunted democracy was but a name. But Masonry recognizes with generous sensibility the dangers and needs of individual man, and watches with genial care over his rights. Its primary object is to bless the race, not in the aggregate, but in its units; while its ultimate aim is not to exert a power over society, but to achieve its melioration and perfection by silent influences in its component parts. This characteristic of her system is the reversal of the theories of ancient days which were tried only to fail, and have left the wrecks of their destruction scattered over the earth. Masonry has never sought to establish her sway *over* men, but *within* them. She exerts her power as a pervading influence, and never in the form of arbitrary control. She meets man in all the varieties of his condition with sympathy, and comprehends him in all the wants of his complex nature. Her first and last teaching is that the highest human development is in the direction of personal virtue and individual excellence; that the true nobility is goodness; that the common duties of life have in them the elements of heroism and sanctity; that self-respect is a virtue; and that every man possesses a dignity derived from his original endowments and inherent capabilities. She esteems every man the peer of his fellow in nature and rights. Before her altar distinctions vanish, and all men meet on the level. The prince and the peasant stand alike in her presence.

Whatever is common to man is not foreign to her regard. She provides for the physical wants of the body and the yearning needs of the soul. She stands as his instructor and guide, protector and friend. And so it is that Masonry points to its monuments of usefulness not among the few who attain greatness and renown, but among the quiet and peaceful crowd unknown to fame. Her beneficial influence is not so conspicuous in the seats of wealth and power, where rights seek not for protection, and affluence craves not sympathy and aid; but among the masses of mankind who need defense and sympathy, and whose wants demand relief.

The chief element of STRENGTH in Masonry is its principle of association. Man by nature is formed for Society. It is impossible for him to live without it, without degenerating. The law of attraction in the material universe is not more necessary than the law of attraction in the social world. And as the one produces its mighty effects in sustaining systems of worlds and the cohesion of their parts, so the other by its combining energy supports and unites society in indissoluble bonds. But while it is absolutely true that Union is strength, yet it is also true that the character of the objects of human association and the nature of the means of obtaining them determine the degree of its efficiency and the length of its duration. History and experience bear unmistakable testimony to the fact that any society not based on virtuous principles, by a natural law, must inevitably perish. The want of moral cohesion ensures its rupture and decay. On the other hand, the three-fold cord of association, woven of high moral principles, is not easily broken. Its strength is in proportion to the elevation of its aim, and its vitality is commensurate with the extent of its hope. Now Masonry stands on a higher vantage ground in both these respects than any other human institutions. No aim can be higher than that which she proposes to accomplish—the physical, mental and moral improvement of her members, and the circle in which her operations extend embrace the race. In making this declaration it is not pretended that her primary object is an undistinguished and unbounded benevolence. Masonry was instituted to promote the immediate good of her members, wherever they may be; and does not claim to sacrifice that good for the benefit of the uninitiated. She provides for her own in the first instance, and the peculiarity of her association, ensuring the performance of this obligation, is the grand element of her continued life. She is necessarily a propagandist, and furnishes within herself the motive for a perpetual and universal increase. It is her interest to enlarge her means of use-

fulness, and her doors turn on ready hinges to all applicants for her benefits not disqualified by irreligion or vice.

Brotherly love contributes essentially to the strength of Masonry. The fraternal feeling which is characteristic of Freemasonry does not originate in a mere congeniality of sentiment, or similarity of disposition. It is a principle incorporated in the frame-work of her system. It is not dependent on personal preferences, nor left to grow out of frequent and agreeable intercourse. Social companionship develops a kindly feeling in Masonry, as elsewhere, and often ripens into friendship, which gives a zest to the enjoyment of life. This form of brotherly love, however, is the effect of circumstances; desirable and profitable, and promoted in our Order as much or more than in any other Institution. But, in a more large and comprehensive sense, brotherly love is obligatory on all Masons, and extends its regards to the whole Fraternity, wherever dispersed. Thus universal in its relations, it secures a unity and harmony which render our Order not only invincible to external assaults, but precludes the possibility of disruption and ruin from internal causes. This tie of brotherly love, regarded not as a sentiment, but as an obligation, is the glory of Masonry, and clothes it with an universal power. Overleaping all geographical divisions, rising above all religious and political differences, and ignoring all diversities of race, it establishes a common bond of kindly intercourse among the Craft. Over all the world, wherever a Mason discovers another Mason, he finds a Brother and a friend. If he is in want, he can claim relief which will not be denied. If he is a stranger, he can demand and receive hospitality. If in danger, he can demand succor. On the tented field the stroke which would have fallen in death has often been arrested by this mysterious power, and the claims of Brotherhood have been recognized in savage warfare. The Masonic sign of distress is potent in all calamities which affect life or fortune, wherever the fraternal eye may discern it. Such effects are produced only by Masonry. She alone speaks that universal language whose whispers may be heard amid the thunders of war, in the crash of shipwreck, and in the roar of violence, and whose words like pentecostal utterances, are intelligible among all people and tongues!

The BEAUTY of Masonry consists not merely in the fair proportions of her design or the antique grandeur of her drapery, but in the magnitude and glory of her operations. Through the long ages, as now, she has stood the friend of man and the benefactor of society. In all the earth she has distilled her genial dew of blessing, and her path

is everywhere marked with verdure and fruitfulness. Her works praise her in the gates, and the grateful tears of the poor and unfortunate sparkle like jewels in her diadem of glory. Her very genius is love, the spirit of which connects her members in an unbroken phalanx, as a band of Brothers, but overflows those bounds and expands itself in a stream of Charity, embracing all mankind. The identification of Masonry and Charity forms the popular idea of our Order. By general consent it stands at the head of charitable institutions. But alms-giving is not the most important part of charity in the Masonic sense. This consists rather in the cultivation and exercise of kindly disposition and active sympathies. It is a charity which leads men to judge of others with lenity, and to speak of them without reproach—the charity which makes the good name of another as precious as our own—it is exercised in the endeavor to do away with suspicions, jealousies, rivalries and evil speakings—it is to sustain the wounded spirit, to afford consolation to the afflicted, to extend succor to the oppressed—to redress wrong. Such is Masonic charity, identical with the charity of Christianity, and which, like that, “never faileth.”

An institution adorned with beauty like this must hold its place in human affection, while misfortune and sorrow are the common lot, while human hearts cry out for sympathy, while man continues frail and imperfect.

If this faint sketch of some of the more prominent principles of Freemasonry is correct, the reasons are sufficient to account for her unchangeable and vigorous continuance until the present time. That this Order commends itself to the intelligence of the nineteenth century is evinced by its larger constituency than ever before, and by its firmer hold on the favor of wise and good men. We submit, therefore, that it is not presumptuous to expect that in the long line of centuries to come, it will repose in undisturbed endurance upon the imperishable pillars of its support. *Esto perpetua!*

In the present crisis in national affairs a brief allusion may be pardoned to the relations of Masonry to Patriotism. While Masonry stands sternly aloof from all partizan politics, she inculcates the love of country, obedience to rulers, and respect to the majesty of law. Masonry is strongly allied to the structure of our government by her doctrine of equality and the elective principle in the creation of her officers. She has therefore ever taken a manly stand in defense of these principles as embodied in the American Constitution. It is certain that the form of our government was planned by Masonic minds.

More than fifty of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence were of the Masonic Fraternity. Nearly all the general officers of the Revolution were also Masons. The great battles of the war were fought under Masonic commanders. The blood of Warren moistened yonder hill in the first libation to liberty, and Washington conducted our armies to final victory.

The spirit which animated these patriots of other days has not fled from our altars. Masonry still yields her loyal and unfaltering support to that Constitution which her sons so greatly assisted to establish. Now, as ever, she stands by the laws and upholds all rightful authority. At the same time she lends her influence to soften the calamities of war and to heal the wounds of fratricidal strife. Her sons, when called upon to buckle on their armor, have responded promptly and in multitudes. None have exceeded them in bravery and endurance in the line of their duty. They still stand ready to share in the sacrifices which may be required by their country. It remains to be seen how Masonry will fulfill her mission when war shall end in victory, and peace and union shall again prevail. At least, she will be faithful to her ancient traditions and pristine honor, and true to her allegiance. The progress of events seems to indicate that the hour of deliverance is at hand. Let us hope that when the cap-stone is finished on the topmost tower of our Temple the banner of our country, in the serene beauty of its celestial dyes, and in all the fulness of its ancient pride, shall float from its summit, once again the emblem of a united, free and prosperous nation.

CONCLUDING HYMN.

Accept, Great Builder of the skies,
Our heartfelt acts of sacrifice !
Each Brother found a living stone,
While bending low before Thy throne.

While Craftsmen true their work prepare,
With thoughts unstained, and holy care,
May each be fitly formed and placed
Where Love Divine his hopes had traced.

BENEDICTION.

THE BANQUET.

At three o'clock P. M., on the conclusion of the ceremonies of laying the Corner-Stone, a Procession of the Grand Lodge, and of those who had secured tickets to the Dinner, was formed and marched, under the escort of the Calvary Encampment to Faneuil Hall, where tables were spread for about seven hundred guests, being all that the Hall would comfortably accommodate.

The Hall was beautifully decorated with the National flags, which also enclosed various Masonic emblems. Tables were arranged upon the platform, the floor of the Hall, and in the galleries, and were loaded with choice and tempting viands. The instrumental music, which was of a very superior character, was furnished by the "American Brass Band," of Providence, R. I., which occupied a position in the gallery. After an invocation of the Divine blessing by R. W. Rev. Wm. S. Studley, Grand Chaplain, an hour was passed in attendance to the material part of the banquet. The intellectual feast was opened by M. W. WM. PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, as follows:—

Fellow Masons—This is a gathering of all the clans, when we meet together upon a common platform. Our platform is sound; it has no rotten plank in it. It is for the purpose of extending that platform that we have met to-day, and to lay the Corner-Stone of a building of large and elegant dimensions.

When I looked upon this gathering I felt a just and honest pride that no language will express to you at this moment. I felt that we had met together for a high and noble purpose; not for a political purpose, but upon the broad platform of Christian, civil, and religious faith, to unite in doing what we may to alleviate the distresses of humanity, and of doing what we can to spread the glorious principles which have come down to us untarnished from the days of Solomon, and which have been disseminated through his disciples, throughout the length and breadth not only of this but of every civilized country in the world. Wherever civilization and art is known, this glorious Institution has planted its standard; there it has set up its altars and commands us to lift up thanks to God that we may be permitted to pursue the great work.

I ask each of you to stand where I do and look over this vast assemblage of shining faces, shining with joy. The illustrious workman, (pointing to the portrait of General Warren,) was one of us, who laid down his life that we might worship in this glorious old hall, redolent

with the voices of patriots. We are met, my Brothers, to commemorate the laying of this Corner-Stone. I am very thankful that it has been laid. It is a great, it is a glorious occasion, because this is one of the things that bring us together upon a common question; and we are here to-day under the sanction of the Commonwealth, and I shall by and by present a letter from the Governor, to show that his heart is with us. We are here also under the sanction of the City Authorities, and I wish to present to you a letter drawn up by one who is a descendant of Paul Revere.

Without tiring you further, in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, the General Grand Encampment of the United States, the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and in behalf of Masonry of the whole world, I bid you here a hearty welcome.

Brethren, I do not propose to detain you much longer; I merely propose to say a word about the weather. I was a little disappointed this morning; but upon reflection, I made up my mind that inasmuch as Massachusetts was a hard and sterile State; inasmuch as everything was done by water-power, the clerk of the weather had concluded that we wanted some water to carry on the celebration.

We have been highly favored, Brethren, by your presence. I thank you most kindly and cordially, in behalf of the Brethren whom I represent. I shall close by a sentiment to which I trust every Brother in this hall will heartily respond.

The Grand Master then announced as the first regular sentiment—
"The President of the United States."

At the announcement of this toast the audience rose in a body, and the wildest applause broke forth, while the gas lights, which until then had been burning dimly, were let on with full brilliancy, producing a striking effect. The American Brass Band played the "Star Spangled Banner."

R. W. Brother CHARLES L. WOODBURY was called upon to respond to the sentiment in honor of the President.

Masons of Massachusetts—As has been amply stated by our Most Worshipful Grand Master,—Masons know no politics. It is the peculiar basis of our Institution, that no matter what the nationality of a Brother in distress, no matter what his political creed, no matter what may be his antecedents, the instant he comes within the pale of Masonic relief, he receives that relief with an open heart and an open

hand. Masonry throughout the world, no matter what language, what nationality, teaches one duty to its members, and that is to obey the laws and support the Constitution of the Country.

We, the Masons of Massachusetts, recognize but one plain duty in political life before us, and I quote the language of an eminent deceased Mason, and that is, "to follow the flag, and keep step to the music of the Union."

Gentlemen, it is an ancient custom at Masonic banquets, to toast the President of the United States; a custom derived, not simply because very many of those distinguished dignitaries of the United States, have also been Brother Masons with us, but from the great respect which the Masons bear to the laws of the land, and to him who is sworn to execute and defend them. It is a mark of profound respect, not alone to the office, but also to the officer, which induces us on all State occasions, like this, to propose this formal toast. We can, indeed, as Masons, never forget that the first man who took the oath as Chief Magistrate of the United States that he would faithfully perform the duties of the President of the United States, and that he would protect and defend and preserve the Constitution of the United States, was himself a Brother Mason among us. Not only was he the first of our Presidents, but we all, I think, with one accord, regard him chiefest, first among Masons and among Presidents, and among mankind. I need not say, for the benefit of the reporters, that I allude to George Washington.

It is among the most estimable jewels of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, that they treasure a lock of George Washington's hair, presented to this Grand Lodge, at his decease, by his lamented wife. I rejoice to say that it escaped the conflagration, which destroyed so many of the treasured relics of the Grand Lodge, and that it is yet preserved in the hands of our present worthy Grand Master, to be looked up to with reverence, and to excite them to deeds of patriotism and noble duty.

Seventy-five years ago, when George Washington took that oath, the office of President was an untried experiment. Men who regarded the history and conservatism of the past, feared to trust the people with a free election; they feared, too, that the tenure of office, of four years, was too short, and that the whole scheme of the people for self-government was little short of madness. They referred to European and Oriental examples, and to the dynastic reign of kings, with their policy of centuries as exhibited in the States and courts of these nationalities.

Seventy-five years have passed away, and by the rotation of politics, we have as long a line of Presidents as most of the dynasties can show of kings; and now, to-day, before you, gentlemen, a portion of the great Masonic Body of the whole world, I submit to you that the comparison of our Presidents with any dynasty of kings that has ever existed since the world began, with the governors of any nation that has ever existed, is infinitely in favor of the popular choice—the Presidents of the United States.

Regard them for one moment with a philosophic eye, and where can you find such dignity, such ability, such simplicity of manner, such personal grandeur, as you find in the illustrious long line of men who have filled the office of President of the United States! Although there are kings, kaisers and emperors, surrounded by courts and encircled by a hereditary peerage, and all the pomp and circumstances which the wealth of the nation can lay before them, our Presidents live upon salaries so small that many a private gentleman in the land has the power to exceed them in his annual expenditure; yet the result of this experiment is already in favor of the capacity of a free people. Gentlemen we have toasted the President of the United States in office, and we have borne our tribute to his personal character and private virtues.

Under the Corner-Stone we have laid to-day, we have recorded that this great and good work was begun during the Presidency of Mr. Lincoln, our present Chief Magistrate. What more can we say for him who is first among us? We can simply turn towards Heaven, and in the language with which the first Chief Grand Master of the Masons in the world, King Solomon, addressed his God; we all can turn and pray that God may endow and bless him with an understanding heart in order that these States may be brought back to peace, prosperity and union.

The second toast was—

"The Commonwealth of Massachusetts—Untiring in the cause of civil and religious liberty."

The following letter from His Excellency Governor Andrew was here read:—

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
Executive Department, Oct. 14, 1864. }

To WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., Grand Master, &c.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the favor of your invitation to attend the ceremonies of Laying the Corner-Stone of the new

Masonic Temple to-day, and to assure you that but for the necessity imposed on me by duties, which will confine me to the State House during the morning, including a special meeting of the Executive Council, it would have given me pleasure to witness proceedings of so much interest. I trust that the work you begin to-day will meet no interruption, until it shall be presented to the eye of taste a monument of becoming beauty, and to the eye of use a commodious edifice befitting the purpose of its inauguration.

With respectful good wishes, I am,

Sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN A. ANDREW.

The Grand Master called upon Bro. Hon. JOHN A. GOODWIN, of Lowell, late Speaker of the House of Representatives, to respond to this sentiment, and who thus spoke—

M. W. Grand Master and Brothers :—A third of a century ago, at the laying of the Corner-Stone of our former Temple, he would have been a bold man who had stood forth to claim any sympathy for Masonry from the public opinion of Massachusetts. But history, thank God, sets all things right. To-day our then traduced and persecuted Institution, lacks not the approval of our Governors and other intelligent men. It was many centuries ago that the prophets were stoned by one generation, and their monuments built by the next generation, but there has been many a parallel since. Nor is this tardy but ample justice rendered in Massachusetts alone. It reached from the Lake shore to the Gulf. Ay! from ocean to ocean! We have to-day marched side by side with Brethren from various parts of the Republic, escorted by a gallant body of Brethren from the State of Roger Williams, a Commonwealth, which though of the smallest territory, is gloriously great and expansive in heart.

It is a fitting termination to the exercises of the day that we have brought our Brethren within these hallowed walls. Well, is it, after the hour of necessary refreshment, to hold the "feast of reason and the flow of soul" here, where the patriotic notes of the revolutionary fathers seem still to echo—where from yonder pictured canvas look down on us the placid features of our early Grand Master, who vindicated his principles with the blood of his young heart, on that neighboring height where the commemorative Monument, founded by this Grand Lodge, uplifts its head in the might of simplicity, alike a beacon to the ocean-tossed pilgrim and the earliest shrine he visits when landed on our free shores. And as our eyes turn to the left of Warren, with

what feelings—ever strengthening as we grow older—do we meet the majestic and benignant gaze of our most illustrious Brother, he who was “first in war, first in peace,” and still is “first in the hearts of his countrymen!” Without this place and this presence, our ceremonies would have been indeed incomplete.

This day is truly auspicious. What though the clouds have all the morning dropped their rain. The sunshine of Masonry, superior to the elements, has made all things fair and genial; and despite the darkened sky, has irradiated every heart. May the work so well begun, be prospered and blessed. May our new Temple, rising Phoenix-like from the ashes, built with an increased skill and perfected science, long rear its battlements and towers, in defiance of storm, and violence and conflagration. May it continue to be the birth-place of Friendship, the home of Brotherly Love, and the Mecca of Massachusetts Masonry, centuries after we, and our children, and our children's children, shall have travelled around the square of time and entered the boundless circle of eternity. So long as the pure Masonic fire shall be kept bright on its altars, shall our Order find in this free and ancient Commonwealth a congenial dwelling-place. If public opinion is sometimes harsh, fear not! If Masonry is true to itself, and to that civil and religious liberty mentioned in your sentiment, the “sober, second-thought” of the Old Bay State will rejudge with justice and repay with more than magnanimity. Permit me to close with this sentiment:—

“The Commonwealth of Massachusetts—Quick in her impulses and hasty in her judgments, but in her deliberate conclusions always right.”

The next regular toast was as follows:—

“The City of Boston—Characterized by free schools, free speech and universal education.”

The following letter from the Mayor of the City was here read:—

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, }
Boston, Oct. 14, 1864. }

WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., *Grand Master*—

DEAR SIR—I am much obliged for your kind invitation to participate in the Masonic Banquet this afternoon at Faneuil Hall. Your note did not reach me until last evening, and I had previously made other arrangements for my time.

It would have afforded me much pleasure to be present to meet so many personal friends, and so large a body of the most respectable

citizens of our Commonwealth. I congratulate you on the prosperity of your honorable Fraternity, and desire to express an interest in the erection of your new Building, which will form another architectural triumph for the embellishment of our good city.

Trusting that your festival may promote the harmony of the Order, and that its social enjoyment will exceed the most sanguine anticipations of the Brothers of the Fraternity, whose privilege it will be to participate in it, I have the honor to remain,

Very truly yours, &c.,

F. W. LINCOLN, JR.

HON. GEORGE S. HALE, President of the Common Council of Boston, responded in behalf of the City, saying that it gave him pleasure to act as the *spokesman* of the "*hub*" among so many good fellows (*felloes*.) Not being a Mason, although he could not speak on the "square," he would endeavor to be within the "compass." Mr. Hale spoke in a complimentary manner of the Procession, and of the Members of the Order whom he knew, and gave as a sentiment—

"The Masonic tie of Charity, of kindness and generosity, which binds together Masons whether in or out of the Order throughout the world."

Three cheers for the City of Boston were here called for by Bro. Benjamin Dean, and given with great vigor.

The fourth sentiment was—

The General Grand Encampment of the United States—Founded on the Christian religion, and teaching unbounded hospitality, it is endowed with the love of every knightly heart."

HON. B. B. FRENCH, M. E. Grand Master of Templars in the United States, responded to this sentiment—

Were it not that I know I am addressing an assemblage of Freemasons, I should begin to think I was addressing a meeting of "the Sons of New Hampshire;" for my honored friend and Brother, Woodbury, who responded to the first sentiment, and my friend Hale, who responded to another, are both natives of New Hampshire, and I have the honor to claim that State as the place of my birth. I am proud of my birth-place, and I always glory in the assertion that I am a New England Yankee. It is a birth-right that I shall never sell!

This, Most Worshipful Sir, and respected Brethren, is a proud day for the Freemasonry of Massachusetts—for the Freemasonry of Rhode Island, who have largely joined in your celebration,—for the Freemasonry of Boston. You ought all to be proud of it. I, indeed, am very proud of being so fortunate as to make one of your number. I

have seen many processions in my day, but never one like the one of to-day. When I heard of the destruction of your Masonic Temple by fire, I regarded it as a great calamity; I have this day changed my mind, and have come almost to regard it as a fortunate event—inasmuch as it has been the means of calling forth the tens of thousands who filled the streets of your city to-day, and exhibited to the world such a gathering of Freemasons as it never saw before. It reminds me of the description of the laying of the foundation of the second Temple by the Israelites of old—of which the sacred historian says, “But many of the priests and scribes and chiefs of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice: and many shouted aloud for joy.” I have not a doubt that there were hundreds, perhaps thousands among the multitude, who this day saw the Corner-Stone of your second Temple laid, who experienced feelings kindred to the feelings of those “ancient men,” although they may not have given to them the same outward demonstration.

I believe, said Bro. French, that the Masons of the United States look towards Boston as a sort of Mecca of the Order. It was the place, most assuredly, where Freemasonry began to flourish on this Continent; and when we go back to the days of Grand Master Henry Price, and Grand Master Joseph Warren, and follow down the long line of worthies who have so honorably presided over the Craft, to my Most Worshipful friend and Brother, who now presides here with so much honor to Freemasonry and to himself, we may well turn to Boston and to Massachusetts for instruction and example. One of the best, and most popular poets of Boston, has said, somewhat ironically, that “Boston is the hub of the Universe.” I think I can say, in all truth, that Boston is the hub of Freemasonry in the United States, for from it, as a common centre, the great principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, that characterize our Order, and that Charity without which we are indeed nothing, have radiated and are still radiating to the furthestmost bounds of the Union.

Bro. French then went on to say, that he was present as the Grand Master of the Templars of the United States, that Templar Masonry was just at this time his speciality. He spoke of the adoption of a new Constitution of the Grand Encampment of the United States at Hartford, in 1856, and remarked that it had been the cause of some misunderstanding between the Grand Encampment and some of the State Grand Bodies, but he was rejoiced upon being publicly assured this day by the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Massa-

chusetts and Rhode Island, Sir William S. Gardner, that the Templars of Massachusetts and Rhode Island were loyal to the Grand Encampment of the United States. They had certainly shown their loyalty to-day by their kind and courteous reception of, and attention to, him (Sir Knight French.)

The speaker then alluded to the visit of De Molay Encampment and St. John's Encampment to Richmond a few years ago, and complimented his friend and M. W. Brother who now presided, (Sir Knt. Parkman,) on the happy manner in which he commanded and presided over that fraternal and Knightly expedition, and wondered whether they could renew that expedition to Richmond now, and meet with a like reception!

After a few remarks on the present prosperity of the Order of Freemasons, and the expression of his hope that the new Temple might be completed without accident, and ever remain as the Grand Asylum of the Craft in Massachusetts, Brother French concluded with the sentiment—

"The Union of Freemasonry—A Union that never can be broken."

As soon as Bro. French had concluded, M. W. Gr. Master Parkman rose and said, that the allusion of Bro. French to the visit at Richmond a few years ago, brought to his mind occurrences, since the unhappy war commenced, growing out of that visit, which he would briefly allude to. He then stated instances where, through the fraternal acquaintances he had at that time formed in Richmond, he had succeeded in alleviating the sufferings of our prisoners there, and had even been instrumental in causing some of them to be restored to their friends.

Bro. French begged to be allowed to say a few words more suggested by Bro. Parkman's remarks. He said that his position was such that he perhaps witnessed more of the benefits of Freemasonry, as connected with this war, than any Brother present. He then gave several instances of Brotherly kindness and courtesy that had fallen beneath his own notice, between the belligerents, and alluded particularly to the case of Bro. Bradford, son of our M. W. Bro. Freeman Bradford, of Portland, Maine, who was desperately wounded at the night attack on Fort Sumter, and was taken to Charleston, and to the house of our worthy and respected Brother, Doctor A. G. Mackey, where he had all possible care and attention until he died. And still there are those, said Bro. French, who assert that Freemasonry has had its day, and has ceased to be useful! Freemasonry ceased to be

useful! As well might it be said that the sun in the heavens had ceased to shine—that philanthropy among men had ceased to exist. No, Most Worshipful Sir, and Brethren, Freemasonry is in the very meridian of its glory and its usefulness, and it shall last as long as the world shall stand.

The next toast was—

"The Orator of the Day"—The Theme and the Speaker well met. The treatment of his subject is all that could be desired by the Fraternity, and all the ambition of the speaker could have hoped. Both speaker and subject have new claims upon our regard."

The toast was suitably responded to by Bro. HALL.

The next toast was—

"Our Foreign Relations."—Successive links of that golden chain which unites our Fraternity the world over."

Replied to by the R. W. Br. R. T. CLINCH, Dep Grand Master for New Brunswick, who was present as the Guest of the Grand Lodge.

M. W. Grand Master—This is an unexpected honor; I had not the remotest idea that I would be called upon to-day, in this time-honored and venerated place, and before this large and respectable assemblage of the Fraternity, to respond to the truly Masonic sentiment which has just been proposed. I confess therefore my inability to do justice to the subject, and have deeply to regret that there is not present some worthy Mason from New Brunswick, who, by his eloquence and ability, would leave with you a better impression concerning the Craft in our Province, than I can possibly hope to do.

The most pleasing and fraternal relations have ever existed between the Masons of Massachusetts and of the Province of New Brunswick. Many, very many years ago; probably before the majority of us here to-day saw the light, the Royal Arch Companions in our Province, sought the jurisdiction of Massachusetts for instruction and counsel; and recently our Provincial Grand Lodge applied to the Grand Lodge of this State for a competent Brother to visit and instruct us. The ready and cheerful compliance with which our request was granted, will, I assure you, never be forgotten by the Masons in our Province, whilst the beneficial results of that visit and its salutary influence upon our Lodges will be as enduring as the Institution itself. It is no wonder, then, that we turn to Massachusetts as our Masonic *Alma Mater*. Next to our own Grand Lodge we reverence her. Its Masonic spirit, its conservatism, its firm adherence to the principles we all profess, in

her darkest hours of our history on this Continent, excite our warmest admiration. We claim with you a participation in those feelings of reverence and love you maintain for that noble roll of illustrious Craftsmen,—beginning with the gallant Warren and coming down to, but not ending with, your venerated and venerable Lewis,—which has made the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts a shining light in the Masonic world. Your authorities are our authorities; your decisions are quoted by us and never questioned; the name of your able Grand Secretary, Brother Charles W. Moore—whose name as a Masonic jurist is as wide spread as the Fraternity—is with us as a household word upon all the topics which he has elucidated by his learning. Besides all this, between individual Brethren of the two Jurisdictions there is a continual recurrence of acts of kindness and love. I must urge these as reasons why I cannot do justice to the sentiment to which I have been called upon to respond, and which was so warmly received; in view of all that I have said, thinking of the courtesies that have been extended to me since I have been in this city, impressed with the spirit of this day's proceedings, and surrounded by the influences of the time and the occasion, I can scarcely feel that I am a "Foreign Relation."

Allow me, before sitting down, to express my regret at the loss you have sustained in the destruction of your noble Hall, and particularly in losing those cherished mementoes of the past, to which were attached some Masonic or historic interest of more than ordinary importance. These can never be replaced, but I mistake the spirit of the Masons of Massachusetts, I mistake the meaning of the large gathering at this day's ceremonial, if your second Temple does not prove to be a far more noble monument of your taste and liberality, than the one—magnificent as it was—which it is intended to replace.

The next sentiment was—

"The Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island."

This was responded to by M. E. WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, as follows:—

M. W. Grand Master—It affords me great pleasure at this time to respond to the sentiment congratulatory to the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, inasmuch as its history is interwoven with the interests of the Grand Lodge over which you preside, and I might also add, with the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island. Of the distinguished Knights who have commanded this Grand Encampment, Raymond, Robinson and Lewis, have also sat in the Oriental chair,

occupied by you, while Fowle, Loring, Dame, Hews, Flint, Moore, Hammatt, Baker, Bradford and Harwood, are names identified with Masonry in Massachusetts, some of whom can never be forgotten in the history of your Grand Lodge.

But it has been on occasions of this kind, that the services of the Grand Encampment have been required to assist you in performing your duties. In 1825, when the Corner-Stone of the Monument was laid on Bunker Hill, in presence of the illustrious Bro. the Marquis De La Fayette, by your predecessor, the M. W. John Abbot, long since departed this life, this Grand Encampment, under the command of M. E. Sir Henry Fowle, its G. Master, and also then Deputy Gen. Grand Master of Templars in the United States, occupied a prominent position with you. The records of your Grand Lodge are so particular as to state among other things not less worthy to be recorded, that "the Templars were in full dress, and displayed the banners of Knights Templars and Knights of the Red Cross. Six Knights, with lances, preceded, bearing on the points of their lances white pennants, on which were painted the names of the six New England States. A front and rear guard, and also the guards of the banners, were armed with lances."

Again, in 1843, when the Monument, which we see from this Cradle of Liberty, was completed, and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was present to pronounce the work "*well done*," and to declare that the Craftsmen had done their duty, this Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island escorted you to the Hill. And finally, in 1854, when the model of the original Monument, erected by King Solomon's Lodge of Charlestown, cut in enduring marble, was deposited within the granite obelisk, these two Grand Bodies there stood side by side. And on the 14th day of October, 1890, the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, "whom persecution could not prostrate, whom the withering glances of scorn could not terrify, and by whose steady bearing and steadfast eye the prowling wolf of malice was driven back to his lair," were guarded and protected by the trusty swords of the faithful Knights of this Grand Encampment, while the M. W. Grand Master laid the Corner-Stone of that old Temple, with the sword in one hand and the trowel in the other.

In those days of persecution and trial, the world-renowned "Declaration of the Freemasons of Boston and vicinity, presented to the public December 31st, 1831," written by that able, accomplished and fearless Knight, who has since presided over our Grand Encampment, Sir Charles W. Moore, was first introduced into the Boston

Encampment, where the subject of a protest was under consideration, your own Grand Lodge being "divided as to the propriety of going before the public to meet charges made by antimasons," for thus the record of your Grand Lodge reads. And I can say with truth, and there are those here who will sustain me, that through the unsparing labors and self-denying efforts of the Knights of this Jurisdiction, especially of Boston Encampment, among whom stood the author of that Declaration, "the first among his equals," the tide of persecution was turned, and your Grand Lodge preserved in undiminished strength.

On all occasions of public character, when your Grand Lodge has been called upon to perform official duties, this Grand Encampment has been ready to assist you, in sunshine and in storm. And to day, M. W. Sir, at your invitation, we have come up with strength and might to sustain you in your new labors, and to encourage you by our presence. In pleasing contrast with the scene thirty-four years ago this day, our trusty swords now rest peaceably in their scabbards. The sound of the gavel is heard again in the once deserted Halls, in newly erected edifices, and in laying the Corner-Stone of a more enduring and beautiful Temple, while Brother, Companion and Knight, are working together in peace and tranquility.

But let me assure you that no rust is consuming our mystic blades; that if necessary, they will again gleam in the light with untarnished lustre; that they are ever ready at your call, to assist, protect and defend the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The seventh regular toast was—

"*Masonic Fraternity*—A synonym for Universal Good Will and True Benevolence."

Replied to by R. W. BENJ. DEAN, J. G. Warden.

When our Grand Master a few moments ago requested me to respond to the sentiment he has just read, my mind not only glanced at the universal good will and true benevolence of our Institution, more universal and true than that of any other organization among men, but it also found itself revelling in the universality of the Institution itself.

Like Jacob's seed, it has spread itself abroad to the North, to the South, to the East and to the West, and in it and its seed all the families of the earth are blessed. And wherever it may be, whether at the icy pole, or beneath the tropical sun of India, its good will and

benevolence preserve the same genial warmth, dispense the same hallowed blessings.

When some of his companions were sent by our lamented Brother, Dr. Kane, to make preparations to find the Northern open Sea, they found themselves too exhausted to return to the ship. They pitched their tent, and could advance no farther. All around, as far as the eye could reach, was an unboundnd sea of ice. Above them was the cold canopy of stars. They could move no longer. They laid themselves down, but not to die. Being absent too long, Brother Kane started to find them. In the distance he discovers the little Masonic flag floating over the tent. He approaches, opens the tent, and hears the first voice saying—"We knew you'd come." And as he spoke those words, the little Masonic flag over the tent was silently proclaiming why they "knew he'd come."

I too was in Richmond on the occasion heretofore alluded to, when the Knights Templars of Boston and Providence—so many of whom are here to-night—visited the Richmond Commandery. What an outpouring of good will was there! I can never forget the time when all the Knights of the three cities involuntarily bursting for a season the bands of discipline, arm in arm, while the Band of Brother Green, which has discoursed such excellent music during this Banquet, and Brother Gilmore's Band, and the Richmond Band, with one accord, and all together, and filling the street from side to side, played together the same tune—marched down that broad street in Richmond, "our steps keeping time to the music of the Union."

May God grant the speedy return of the time when universal good will and true benevolence will exist throughout the length and breadth of our land; when the Knights Templars from Massachusetts and Rhode Island may again, in company with the Richmond Sir Knights, keep step to the music of the Union, played by their congregated bands as on that happy day.

God grant that the time will soon come when Masonry may exert its true mission of healing wounds and assuaging passions; when with its silver trowel it may so spread the salve of universal good will and true benevolence over the wounds this lamentable civil war has made, as to heal every wound, and obliterate every scar. And may they be so effectually obliterated and blotted out by the return of universal good will and true benevolence, that with reference to its crimes even—it may be said—"the accusing angel, as he flies towards Heaven's chancery, blushes as he gives them in, and the recording angel as he writes them down, drops a tear upon the words, and blots them out forever."

The next toast was—

"The Clergy."

Responded to by R. W. Rev. WILLIAM S. STUDLEY, Junior Grand Chaplain. After some playful introductory remarks, he spoke of the American Clergy, and especially the clergy of Massachusetts and New England, as a body of men whose teachings were always profitable to consider, and whose example was always safe to follow,

The next toast was complimentary to the Grand R. A. Chapter of Massachusetts, which was responded to by M. E. Companion SOLON THORNTON, Grand High Priest.

The next sentiment—

*"The District Deputy Grand Masters—*Their varied Masonic skill, their ardent zeal, and untiring exertions, entitle them to our warmest thanks."

Bro. Newell A. Thompson was called on to respond to this toast, but he having retired, a call from the audience was made on R. W. Bro. WM. D. COOLIDGE, who spoke as follows:—

*Worshipful Master—*I rise with very great pleasure Sir, to respond to this sentiment, and to bear my ready and willing testimony to the great usefulness and fidelity of those distinguished Brethren whom you have so justly termed the right arm of the Grand Master. Five of my Masonic years I past with them, which I consider the happiest portion of my Masonic experience, and no one can more highly appreciate the value of the services of this Board than the past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge. Under the administration of my excellent friend and Brother here on my right, Dr. Winslow Lewis, the duties of this Board were more directly defined, and no honor that he ever conferred upon me ever conduced so much to my individual happiness as when I was permitted, through his appointment, to associate with them, and share their labors, and when his mantle, like that of Elijah, fell upon my shoulders, how earnestly did I pray that one spark of the intelligence of that head, and one drop of the goodness and Brotherly kindness of that heart, could come with that mantle to aid and guide me in the discharge of those duties which he had so ably and so satisfactorily performed.

Sir, I come from the fatigues of the preparation of this Banquet, that all who sit here should have something comfortable for the inner man, and I shall esteem myself most happy if I can gather up one thought to add to that harmony which has blessed us from yonder

gallery, and to that string of pearls and gems which has fallen from the lips of those Brethren who have preceded me from that platform. I might speak to you of the impression on my own mind as I send it back as on this day, when the Corner-Stone of our first Temple was laid, and contrast it with the scene of to-day; for never was more marked respect paid by the citizens of this metropolis than we have experienced this day. We have passed through the obloquy and prejudices of former years and have lived them down. "Truth crushed to earth shall rise again," and that justice and charity so long withheld from us, is to-day the willing tribute of every heart. God is just, and always in his own good time will vindicate himself. Through His grace we have lived it down.

I turn, Sir, as to the magnet, to him who has been so eloquently termed the first among us. Our Brother (pointing to the picture of Washington) to-day, Sir, and in this eventful period; I turn to him, and in the most endearing relation; and I am reminded of that beautiful sentiment of our Brother, the late Samuel L. Knapp, who said "Heaven left him childless, that all the nation might call him FATHER." Happy for us all if we could feel and acknowledge that fraternal relationship, and thus all become Brothers again. Allusion has been made to the State that raises men. Turn now upon this picture and look upon that brow where "every god did seem to set his seal," and in this hour of our anxiety and trouble, listen to his words and lay them to heart:—"One country, one Constitution, one destiny. Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable." Masonry is loyal. We, as Masons, would be loyal to God, loyal to our country, and loyal to ourselves and our principles.

But, Sir, I am reminded that I am here to speak for the Past Grand Masters and the Deputies. Here is one on my right, the genial influence of whose presence I have felt ever since I sat here, and for whom, now that he is stricken and unable to address you, I may be permitted to utter a word. He who has so endeared himself to us through a long life, filled with the true spirit of our Order, who is the graduate of every Masonic degree known among us, whose eloquence has so often charmed us, and whose life is the embodiment of his teachings. Now that his tongue must be silent, let me speak what I know would be the language of his heart to-day. In the midst of all our anxieties and sorrows, in our fears for our nation and its best interests, and all its most cherished institutions, and its hopes, let every Brother call to mind the first word he uttered in a Masonic Lodge, and when all earthly efforts seemed to fail, look up and be strength-

ened, and still trust in God—doing our utmost to become worthy of His guidance, believing with all our hearts, that as we become worthy, we shall be guided by a wisdom which cannot err, and that we shall receive the continuance of that love which is unchangeable and everlasting.

Much as I venerate the symbols of our Order, beautiful and expressive as they are, the Square, the Level, and the Plumb, to-day, and in this presence give me the Trowel, and to you R. W. Bro. Lewis, I present it in figure, and close with this sentiment—

“The Trowel and its Uses—Exemplified in the life and character of our beloved Past Grand Master, Dr. Winslow Lewis.

R. W. Rev. Bro. J. W. DADMUN being called upon spoke as follows:—

I had hoped, for once, you would allow me to sit quietly and enjoy the “feast of reason and the flow of soul.” But since you have called me out I must say, this is one of the happiest days of my life.

Allusion has been made, by the eloquent speakers who have preceded me, to the days of persecution, when those who laid the Corner-Stone of our first Temple had to hold the sword in one hand and the trowel in the other. That was a fiery ordeal, a time that tried men's souls. As I have looked over the history of those times I have been reminded of the two ladies, who, while reading the scriptures, came across this beautiful passage from one of the Prophets, “He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver.” They could not fully comprehend the import of the passage. One of them suggested that they go to the silver-smith and inquire into the process of refining. To this they agreed. They went, and he kindly explained the process. Said he, “When the silver is put into the crucible I sit and watch it until it is refined.” They left. Said one, “I think I understand it. ‘He shall sit as a refiner,’ means our Heavenly Father will watch over his children when they are in the furnace of affliction.” Just then the silver-smith called them back. Said he, “there is one thing I forgot to tell you. When I can see my own image in the metal, I know the process of refining is complete.” “Now,” said they “we have the idea. God suffers us to remain in the furnace of affliction long enough to bring out his own image upon the soul.” So the Great Master Builder suffered the Masonic Fraternity to pass through those days of persecution, that the dross might be separated from the gold. And if you want an evidence of this, look at these old veterans who never faltered, but came out of the furnace without so much as the smell of fire

on their garments. They are the tried Stones in our glorious Temple.

I am happy to belong to that class of Clergymen who are not ashamed to have it known that we are Masons. In this we are following in the footsteps of the fathers. Good old Bishop Heading and Rev. Elijah B. Sabin, were honorary members of Mount Lebanon Lodge. They remained true during the antimasonic excitement, and we, their sons, mean to stand by the ancient land-marks of the Order. I hope to live long enough to see our new Temple completed. Then look out for a glorious day. .

The next sentiment—

"St. John's Encampment of Providence, Rhode Island."

Responded to by Rev. Bro. CHARLES H. TITUS, Past Grand Commander.

M. W. Grand Master—Being called upon without a note of warning, I must be excused from attempting to make a speech; especially after you have been listening to the able and brilliant speakers who have preceded me. I sincerely thank you for the high compliment you have paid the old Encampment with which I have the pleasure to be connected, and the honor of being one of its Past Commanders. I have been exceedingly pleased and gratified with the display and ceremonies of this day; and with the large number and sterling character of the Brotherhood assembled to do honor to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and to assist in the important services of the occasion. This pleasant festival scene we are now enjoying will prove one of those green spots that remain fragrant in the memory long after the day has passed.

With many thanks for your courtesy, and with this apology to my Brethren present, I will again ask to be excused from further remarks.

W. Brother MUZZEY, Master of Mount Olivet Lodge, Cambridge, being called upon, spoke as follows:—

M. W. Grand Master—An unexpected duty is always somewhat embarrassing. I certainly had not the vanity to anticipate that any summons from you, Sir, would be addressed to me on this occasion and in this presence. If excuse were admissible, I might find it in the wearisome march, and in the later duties of this table, which have received from me due personal attention. But a command from your authority may not be disregarded for any trivial reason.

As I have listened to the eloquent train of remark from the Brethren who have preceded me, my mind has been naturally led to contemplate the elevated character of our Order. Since our first Grand Master laid its foundations, what institution of man has rivalled the permanence of its existence? Within the proud period of its record, how much else has had its day and perished! Do you point me to personal distinction? Hardly more than contemporaneous renown is accorded by man to the most eminent of his fellows—and true of the common fame of men is the brilliant sarcasm of De Quincey upon the ephemeral reputation of Fox:—"It sleeps where the carols of the larks are sleeping, which gladden the spring-time of those early years; sleeps with the roses that glorified the beauty of their summers." States, institutions, whole races of men, have lost their places upon earth, and become extinct. "Freemasonry, notwithstanding, has still survived. The attentive ear receives the sound from the instructive tongue, and the mysteries of Masonry are safely lodged in the repository of faithful breasts."

And what has given to Masonry its enduring honor? By virtue of what attributes has it belted the globe with its glorious Brotherhood; overleaped the barriers of nations, survived the fall of empires, and remained unlost amid the confusion of tongues?

Its sacred principles give to it its immutability and perpetual reverence among men. It is because its appeal is to the highest and holiest promptings of our nature, and it makes men truer and better who come within the circle of its teachings and influence.

In recognition of this truth,—not, I hope, too grave a thought for a festival table of Masons,—I offer you, Sir, this sentiment:—

Masonry—The golden Cestus of Earth; the Celestial Ladder to Heaven.

A sentiment, complimentary to Calvary Encampment, which Body had performed escort duty during the day for the Grand Lodge, was eloquently responded to by Sir Knight NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK, of Providence, Rhode Island.

Some other toasts were given and responded to, of which no notes were taken. The speeches were eloquent, and the cheering enthusiastic. Several other Brethren had expected to speak, but found themselves too much exhausted by the chill and fatigues of the day, and were reluctantly compelled to retire at an early hour. The speaking, however, was sufficient to enliven the occasion and to mark it as a "white day" for Masonry in Massachusetts.

The Grand Lodge was closed, in Ample form, at 8 o'clock, P. M.

NOTE. The 14th of October had been selected by the Committee, for the Laying of the Corner-Stone of the new edifice, as peculiarly appropriate, it being the anniversary of the Laying of the Foundation-Stone of the first Masonic Temple in this city in the year 1830.

The weather was unpropitious for a parade of any description, but it was particularly so for an effective display of the rich and showy regalia of a Masonic procession. A violent North-East storm, commencing on Wednesday night, prevailed without intermittance, until Friday morning, when it had partially exhausted itself; though the rain continued to fall, more or less copiously, during the whole day. The streets were in a bad condition for marching—the parade ground was wet, and the atmosphere chilly, if not positively cold. The natural effect of all this was to prevent the attendance of many Lodges and Brethren in distant parts of the State, who would otherwise have been present, and contributed to increase the numbers of the Procession.

But, notwithstanding these adverse circumstances, the Procession was one of the most imposing and brilliant Masonic displays ever witnessed in Massachusetts, if it were ever equalled by any similar exhibition in this country. It was imposing and brilliant, not alone in the variety and richness of its regalia and decorations—in the beauty and number of its banners—its splendid escort and martial appearance; but in the character, intelligence and manly bearing of the men who composed it. "New England citizenship," as was said by one of the city papers the next morning, "was well represented. Intelligence and character were stamped upon the countenances of those who participated in the proceedings, and a finer body of men morally and intellectually never paraded our streets. The proceedings, though marred by the inclemency of the weather, were deeply interesting. It must have astonished some of those who remember when opposition to Freemasonry was made a political hobby, to see the Institution so flourishing; but it has survived its period of persecution, and is going about its work of charity and beneficence, silently and efficiently, softening the rigors of war, smoothing the path of the distressed, helping the needy, and binding its members in a Brotherhood of mutual sympathy and true humanity."

It is estimated that there were more than *six thousand* Masons in attendance, including many who, in consequence of the delay in organizing, and the dampness of the ground, were compelled to withdraw before the body took up the line of march. This number, large as it

was, would probably have been increased by two or three thousand, had the previous day been clear and pleasant.

The Procession was formed on the Common, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, W. Brother WILLIAM D. STRATTON.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, DEC. 14, A. L. 5864.

The Annual Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Summer street, Boston, on Wednesday, December 14, A. L. 5864.

P R E S E N T.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master.

R. W. Charles C. Dame, D. G. M.

“ William S. Gardner, S. G. W.

“ Benjamin Dean, J. G. W.

“ John McClellan, G. Treasurer.

“ Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary.

“ Charles L. Woodbury, Cor. G. Secretary.

W. Rev. William S. Studley, G. Chaplain.

“ William D. Stratton, G. Marshal.

“ Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. D.

“ Henry Mulliken, J. G. D.

“ W. W. Wheildon,
“ Henry Tabor, 2d,
“ Lovell Bicknell,
“ F. L. Winship, } G. Stewards.

“ F. J. Foss, G. Pursuivant.

“ E. D. Bancroft,
“ S. H. Gamwell, } G. Lecturers.
“ J. K. Hayward, }

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson,	District No. 1.
“ William F. Salmon,	“ No. 3.
“ John P. Lovell,	“ No. 5.
“ Rev. J. W. Dadmun,	“ No. 6.
“ James M. Cook,	“ No. 7.
“ Rev. R. S. Pope,	“ No. 8.
“ Henry Chickering,	“ No. 9.
“ Solon Thornton,	“ No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, at half-past 2 o'clock,
P. M. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Permission was given to several Representatives of Lodges to sit without their Jewels.

The following Brethren were recognized as proxies, to wit:—Bros. Wm. H. Bass, for Harmony Lodge; Marshall Fox, for Thomas Lodge; A. L. Burditt, for Wilder Lodge; A. A. Burditt, for Clinton Lodge; Joseph Osborn, for Jordan Lodge.

The Dispensation of Doric Lodge, at Feltonville, together with a petition for a Charter for said Lodge, was presented and referred to Bros. Coolidge, Warren and Stearns. This Committee subsequently submitted the following Report, which was adopted:—

R E P O R T.

The Committee to whom was referred the application of Doric Lodge, of Feltonville, have examined the Records and By-Laws of said Lodge, and when the same are accepted by the Lodge, with such alterations as this Committee have proposed, we recommend that they receive a Charter from this Grand Lodge.

Boston, Dec. 14, 1864.

W. D. COOLIDGE, *Chairman.*

The Auditing Committee submitted their Annual Report, which was adopted.

The Committee of Charity submitted the following Report, which was adopted:—

R E P O R T.

The Committee of Charity, of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, respectfully Report that they have received the sum of sixteen hundred dollars, during the year of 1864, and have paid out the sum of fifteen hundred and ninety-two dollars and twenty-five cents, to one hundred sixty-two applicants; for which payment we have vouchers on file, leaving a balance in the hands of the Committee of seven dollars and seventy-five cents.

SAMUEL H. GREGORY.

EBEN F. GAY.

EDWARD STEARNS.

L. L. TARBELL.

Boston, Dec. 13, 1864.

The Special Committee on Charity offered the following Report, which was adopted:—

REPORT.

The undersigned, Special Committee of Charity, respectfully Report:—

That they had in their hands at their last Report, a balance of	\$73 94
That they have since received of the Grand Treasurer, by vote of Grand Lodge,	400 00
Making	\$473 94
That they have disbursed in charity to 41 applicants,	\$467 00
Leaving a balance in their hands of	6 94
	\$473 94

Respectfully submitted,
Boston, Dec. 14, 1864.

WILLIAM PARKMAN.
CHARLES W. MOORE.

On motion of the Grand Treasurer, it was

Voted, That the sum of \$500 (five hundred dollars) be placed in the hands of the Committee of Charity, and \$200 (two hundred dollars) in the hands of the Grand Master and Recording Grand Secretary for charitable purposes.

The Committee on the Library offered the following Report, which was adopted:—

REPORT.

The Committee on the the Library of the Grand Lodge are compelled to present a Report on that which is not extant,—on those things which now are among the things that were, now to be catalogued as “*res non inventæ, non existentibus*.”

All that *was*, of a really excellent Library, so recently a proud monument of the Literature of Freemasonry, belonging to this Grand Lodge, is buried among the ashes and rubbish of our Temple. That collection of Masonic Works, was a valuable one—collected by the labor of years. Most of it was the gift of two of the Brethren, and towards it, this Body paid but a small sum. It was insured for \$400.

The Committee, however, have to congratulate the Fraternity, that the most rare work, (it being accidentally in the hands of the binder) and of which no other perfect copy can be found, the *Masonic Mirror*, was preserved. It consists of two folio, and seven quarto volumes. It embodies all the details of that exciting period when antimasonry was rampant, and its utter downfall, death, and everlasting interment.

The Directors of the Corporation have placed the amount received from the insurance, in the hands of the Committee on Library, and already many works have been purchased, and several donations have been made, and the Committee would express, in behalf of this Grand Lodge, their thanks to the Grand Lodges of Maryland, Ohio, Illinois and Louisiana, for their donations of copies of their transactions.

A Masonic Library cannot now be readily obtained. It is a well known fact, that works on the subject of Freemasonry are eagerly sought for, and obtain large prices, and that several of the Brethren in this jurisdiction have, at a great expense, their private collections, which have been obtained after much research, at the cost of much time and expenditure of money.

Moreover, our Library cannot be enlarged by purchase, at this time, of foreign works, on account of the enhanced cost of importation.

The Committee, therefore, look to their Masonic Brethren for their voluntary contributions. Surely there should be a response from all, who are or should be interested in this matter.

The Committee are willing to contribute all their attention and care to effect so desirable an object. A Catalogue has been already prepared, and every book and pamphlet registered, and a column denoting the name of the donor of each gift. They trust to see that column filled with the names of the ardent lovers of the Order, and its interests, and among these interests should be the founding of a store-house of Masonic Literature.

WINSLOW LEWIS, *for the Committee.*

The hour fixed by the Constitutions for the Election of Officers having arrived, the Grand Master resigned the Chair to his Deputy, who ordered a return of the voters present, and appointed the following Brethren a Committee to collect, count and declare the votes, viz :—Bros. Stetson, Fox, and Henry Warren.

The following Brethren were declared elected—the voting being nearly unanimous :—

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, of Boston, Grand Master.

R. W. WENDELL T. DAVIS, of Greenfield, S. G. Warden.

“ SOLON THORNTON, of Boston, J. G. Warden.

“ JOHN McCLELLAN, of Boston, G. Treasurer.

“ CHAS. W. MOORE, of Boston, R. G. Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

R. W. Winslow Lewis, Wm. D. Coolidge, Samuel K. Hutchinson,
Benjamin Dean, Sereno D. Nickerson.

[The M. W. Grand Master, the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and Rec. G. Secretary, are *ex-officio* members of this Board.]

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson, Samuel P. Oliver, Solon Thornton.

The Grand Master having resumed the Chair, the Committee on Work submitted the following Report, which was adopted :—

The Committee appointed to inquire whether any, and if any, what changes have been made in the Work and Lectures as approved by this Grand Lodge in 1862,

REPORT,

That they find the Work and Lectures now given by the Grand Lecturers, to be substantially the same as approved by the Grand Lodge in 1862. Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES C. DAME,	} Committee.
WM. S. GARDNER,	
WM. D. COOLIDGE,	
S. P. OLIVER,	
JOHN MC'CLELLAN,	

Boston, Dec. 14, 1864.

R. W. Brother Salmon submitted a majority Report in behalf of the Committee on Amending the 1st Section, Article 5, Part I. of the Constitutions. R. W. Bro. Coolidge from the same Committee, also submitted a minority Report, which, after discussion, was rejected, and the following was adopted, 86 to 2 :—

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :—

Your Committee to whom was referred the proposed amendment to Art. V., Sect. 1, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, having attended to the duty assigned them, beg leave to submit the following

REPORT:

We find that the clause under consideration requires that certain Grand Officers shall be Past Masters, and that the proposed amendment is calculated to define explicitly what constitutes a Past Master in this connection.

The subject has been agitated before in this Grand Lodge, although not formally presented for action, since 1843, when the present Con-

stitution, substantially, was adopted. The question first arising in the Committee, was, who are Past Masters?

This query has been put, and answered so many times, and always the same way, that a consideration of it here, may be deemed a work of supererogation on the part of the Committee, and so it would be, if these uniform answers had led to uniform and corresponding results in the action of Grand Lodges; but the records of the proceedings of other Grand Lodges will show that this vexatious question has arisen with them as well as with us, and we believe will continue to arise until the proper interpretation of Past Master is made clear by the Constitution of each.

We quote from the publications of those "three great lights" in Masonic literature, Bro. Moore in the East, Bro. Reynolds in the West, and Bro. Mackey in the South, their recorded opinions on this subject, and believe them to be in harmony with all Masonic writers of any note.

In vol. 13, page 130, of the Freemasons' Monthly Magazine, is published the following queries of a correspondent:—

1. What constitutes a Past Master?
2. Does the receiving the degree of Past Master as conferred in the Chapter do this?
3. If this be so, then is a Past Master so made thereby qualified, all other things being equal, to fill the chair in a subordinate Lodge, or an office in the Grand Lodge, one of the pre-requisites of which is, that the officer shall be a Past Master.

In answer to the 1st query the editor says:—"But when so given," (referring to conferring the degree in the Chapter,) "it confers no privileges that can as of right be asserted, or made available, in a Lodge or Grand Lodge of Ancient Craft Masonry."

In answer to the 2d query he says:—"Ancient Craft Masonry gives another and more satisfactory answer in the following words:—*'A Brother who having been duly elected and installed, has served one term as Master of a Lodge, working under the jurisdiction and authority of some Grand Lodge, is alone entitled to the rank and privileges of a Past Master.'*"

"This answer says nothing of the Past Master's *degree*, for Ancient Craft Masonry knows nothing of any such degree. Nevertheless, the only answer which, as Ancient Craft Masonry, it can give to the inquiry of our correspondent, is, that a Past Master is a Brother who having been duly elected and installed, has presided as Master over one of its Lodges."

"It knows no other Past Masters than those who have served in the capacity of presiding Masters of Lodges, which it has itself constituted and authorized. This is the answer of *Ancient Craft Masonry*; and it is the only answer which a Grand Lodge, adhering strictly and literally to the ancient rule and usage, can properly recognize. It is the only answer known to the Grand Lodge of England, and so far as we are informed, the only one known to any Grand Lodge, out of the United States, organized on the basis of *Ancient Craft Masonry*, as understood and practiced in this country and in England."

In answer to the 3d query he says:—"Taking the rule, then, in its ancient strictness and true interpretation, as our stand-point, we answer to this branch of the inquiry of our correspondent, as we have intimated in another place, that the receiving of the Past Master's degree in the Chapter does not invest the recipient with the official qualification contemplated by the regulations of *Ancient Craft Masonry*, in requiring that certain offices in the Grand Lodge shall be filled only by Past Masters of Lodges."

In the *Masonic Trowel*, dated Aug. 10, 1863, page 14, is an article on the eligibility and qualifications of Grand Master, where may be found the following language:—

"The long established usages of the Order have so fully determined what constitutes the eligibility of persons to fill the office of Grand Master, that in this country at least it may justly be regarded as one of the landmarks, and from the universality of the principle, it is one that cannot under any circumstances be removed; and well would it be for the credit of the Order were it as strictly and carefully considered," &c.

"As regards the eligibility of persons for the office, but little needs be said, for the whole affair lies in a nutshell."

"The only thing required, &c., is, that he shall be an actual Past Master—an actual Past Master is one who has been duly elected to the office of Worshipful Master at the regular annual election, and who has been regularly qualified and installed, and served the full term of office."

In the *Lexicon of Freemasonry*, published by Albert Mackey, M. D., under the title "*PAST MASTER*," at page 239, we read:—"The Past Master of a Chapter is only a *quasi* Past Master; the true and legitimate Past Master is the one who has presided over a symbolic Lodge."

These extracts give the substance of what has been written upon

the subject during the past fifteen years, and seem fully and satisfactorily to answer the question arising in the Committee.

We next aimed to discover what was required by various Grand Lodges in this country, as a qualification for election to office therein. Much difficulty was here experienced in obtaining copies of the Grand Constitutions, as our Grand Lodge Library which contained most if not all of them, was unfortunately destroyed by fire before your Committee had arrived at this point in their labors; but enough have been secured to show the rule which obtains in three-fourths of the Grand Lodges in the United States.

The language is not uniform, but in the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, (from 1817 to 1843,) Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Tennessee, Louisiana, California, and the Territories of Nebraska and Colorado, the Grand Constitutions provide, in substance, that certain Grand Officers, in order to be eligible, *shall have passed the chair of some regular Lodge.*

The Grand Constitutions of the States of North Carolina, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Kansas and Massachusetts, (from 1843 to date,) simply say that Past Masters may be eligible to certain Grand Offices, while the Grand Constitutions of the State of Connecticut and the District of Columbia, are silent upon the point at issue.

The precise language used in the various States, will be found in the extracts appended to this report, where will also appear the fact, that in the States of R. Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Iowa, Illinois and Tennessee, the additional requirement of passing the chair, within their respective jurisdictions, is added.

No argument is needed to establish the position that the proposed amendment is in accordance with the general custom in this country, and also in conformity with the *ancient* custom of our own Grand Lodge.

The *Ancient Charges* which form the basis of government for the Grand Lodge of England, and which are published as a component part of the Constitutions of many Grand Lodges in this country sustain this position.

We come to the most important part of our duty, when required to consider the expediency of the proposed change. The question naturally arises, if the definition of Past Master in Grand Lodge is well established, as would seem by the extracts heretofore given, what need of any further explanation? And to this we are forced to reply, that while the *rule* seems clear and explicit, the *custom* certainly does not

conform to it; if the rule and custom are in conformity, why the call for this amendment, and why the adoption of a similar provision in so many of the Grand Lodges in the United States?

In the article at page 133 of vol. 13, of the Freemasons' Monthly Magazine, from which we have already quoted, the editor, with much frankness, says:—

“Here again the practice is at variance with the rule, and the *fiction* is accepted for the reality. The distinction between the *Constitutional* Past Master of the Lodges, and the *quasi* Past Master of the Chapters, is lost sight of, and so general has this practice become in this country, that any attempt to return to the strictness of the ancient rule, would probably be attended with much difficulty, if not found to be wholly impracticable. But with this we have nothing to do. Our present business is with the rule and not with any erroneous practice that has grown up under it.” Also on page 135, “Our individual opinion favors a return to the old rule, being convinced that if it were strictly adhered to, our Grand Lodges would be far better officered than they are at present.”

What was true in 1854, appears to be true now, and your Committee submit this extract as in accordance with their views, only dissenting from so much of it, as questions the propriety and expediency of a “return to the strictness of the ancient rule.”

We find that most of the Grand Lodges have returned to this strictness of construction, as appears by their published Constitutions, written in language not to be misunderstood; and by letters from the Secretaries of the Grand Lodges of N. Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, we are informed that in each of these States, the rule and practice are *not* at variance. The G. Lodge of Maine at its last annual session, adopted an amendment similar to the one under consideration, and the Grand Master writes to us, that the change was made to avoid any difficulty which might arise from the claims of the *quasi* Past Masters of the Chapter.

We are of opinion that it is beneath the dignity of this Grand Lodge to allow the question of expediency simply, to have the least weight, when put in the balance against ancient usage and precedent.

To know the right, and honestly live up to it, should certainly be considered the duty of every Mason, and the Grand Lodge should be the exponent of this principle in all its acts.

Your Committee do not desire to comment on the past action of the Grand Lodge, but in considering the subject submitted to them, they were met at the outset by the fact, that the proposed amendment, if

adopted, might be considered as affecting the position and standing of some who have distinguished themselves and honored the Fraternity by holding office in this Grand Lodge. We assume that one who has filled an office in the Grand Lodge should be recognized as possessing the necessary qualifications therefor; hence we have added a clause to the proposition as referred, fully endorsing all who have held office under the Constitution in its present form. We believe that this "saving clause" will obviate the objections of many who might otherwise be opposed to the amendment.

Among other subjects considered by the Committee, was one perhaps not regularly submitted to them, but one incidentally of much importance, viz:—What Grand Officers shall be required to possess the Past Master's qualification? On this point we find a diversity of custom, some Grand Lodges applying it to their Grand Master and Wardens, others to the District Deputy Grand Masters, and yet others to every officer but the Grand Chaplain and Tyler. The rule of this Grand Lodge by the Constitution of 1817, applied it to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Recording and Corresponding Grand Secretaries, District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Marshal and Grand Deacons.

The *Ancient Charges* of the Grand Lodge of England apply it to the Deputy G. Master and Grand Wardens, exempting the Grand Master, who must be "nobly born, or a gentleman of the best fashion, or some eminent scholar," &c., but in this country, where *royalty* is not held in such high estimation, nearly every Grand Lodge requires that its Grand Master shall have passed the chair of a subordinate Lodge.

In view of the lack of uniformity upon this subject, of the custom prevailing in this Grand Lodge for the past twenty years, and what is of more importance in view of the "saving clause" before referred to, we deem it inexpedient to apply the Past Master qualification to any other number of Grand Officers than those named in the Constitution, viz:—The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Recording and Corresponding Grand Secretaries, and District Deputy G. Masters. An attempt to change any of these will not only provoke discussion, but tend to defeat what your Committee believe to be of vital importance, and which they now recommend as right, and if right, then expedient, to wit:—

That the Constitution, as printed with the Proceedings for 1863, be amended by inserting after the words PAST MASTER, in the fourth and fifth lines of Article V., Section 1, the words, *of a subordinate*

Lodge, under the jurisdiction of some Grand Lodge, or have heretofore held one of the aforesaid offices in this Grand Lodge.

In conclusion permit us to say, that the result of careful research and deliberation, culminates in the above amendment, which we hope may commend itself to all who do not desire "*fiction for reality*" in this Grand Body.

Respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE,	} Committee.
W. F. SALMON,	
S. D. NICKERSON,	
JOHN R. BRADFORD,	

Boston, Dec. 14, 1864.

Extracts from the following Documents accompanied the Report :—

Constitution, Maine, 1863.

Constitution, New Hampshire.

By-Laws, Vermont, 1858.

Constitution, Massachusetts, 1817.

Constitution, Rhode Island, 1859.

Grand Secretary, Connecticut, 1864.

Constitution, New York, 1854.

Constitution, New Jersey, 1861.

Grand Secretary, Pennsylvania, 1864.

Constitution, Delaware, 1860.

Constitution, Ohio, 1860.

Constitution, Illinois, 1863.

Constitution, Indiana, 1863.

By-Laws, Iowa, 1854.

Constitution, Tennessee, 1859.

Constitution, Louisiana, 1858.

Constitution, California, 1857.

Constitution, Nebraska, 1857.

Constitution, Colorado, 1863.

Constitution, North Carolina, 1851.

Constitution, Mississippi, 1858.

Constitution, Wisconsin, 1858.

Constitution, Kansas, 1856.

Constitution, District of Columbia, 1851.

Constitution, Georgia, 1858.

From Report of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, Brother

Albert Pike, Chairman, on the nature of P. M. Degree, Arkansas, 1854.

Extracts from Freemasons' Monthly Magazine, Vol. IV., page 65 and 102; Vol. X., page 260; Vol. XIII., page 129 and 199; Vol. XV., page 185 and 209; Vol. XVII., page 62; Vol. XVIII., page 367.

Masonic Trowel, Aug. 10, 1863, page 14.

Mackey's Lexicon of Freemasonry, edition of 1859, page 338.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, at 6 o'clock.

COMMUNICATION, Dec. 27, A. L. 5864.

A Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Freemasons' Hall, No. 10 Summer street, Boston, on Tuesday, Dec. 27, A. L. 5864.

P R E S E N T .

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, G. Master.

R. W. Charles C. Dame, D. G. M.

“ William S. Gardner, S. G. W.

“ G. Washington Warren, J. G. W. pt.

“ John McClellan, G. Treasurer.

“ Charles W. Moore, R. G. Secretary.

“ Charles L. Woodbury, C. G. Secretary.

W. Rev. William R. Alger, G. Chaplain.

“ Samuel P. Oliver, S. G. D.

“ William D. Stratton, G. Marshal.

“ Wm. W. Wheildon, }

“ Henry Tabor, } G. Stewards.

“ Lovell Bicknell, }

“ F. J. Foss, } G. Pursuivants.

“ Henry L. Dalton, }

“ E. D. Bancroft, } G. Lecturers.

“ J. K. Hayward, }

D I S T R I C T D E U T I E S .

R. W. S. D. Nickerson,

District No. 1.

“ William F. Salmon,

“ No. 3.

“ J. P. Lovell,

“ No. 5.

“ Rev. J. W. Dadmun,

“ No. 6.

“ Rev. R. S. Pope,

“ No. 8.

“ Solon Thornton,

“ No. 11.

“ Newell A. Thompson,

“ No. 12.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the R. W. Dep. Gr. Master, at 7 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Rev. J. W. Dadmun. After

which the Dep. Grand Master, having stated the business to be the Installation of the officers elect for the ensuing year, resigned the chair to R. W. Past Grand Master Coolidge, who appointed the R. W. Bros. Train, Wells, Pope, A. A. Dame, Baker and Bradford, a committee to introduce the Grand Master elect for Installation. The M. W. Brother, Wm. Parkman, Esq., of Boston, was accordingly introduced and Installed and proclaimed Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the year ensuing. The elected officers were then Installed by the M. W. Grand Master.

The Grand Master then announced his Appointments for the ensuing year, and, at his request, the R. W. Brother Coolidge installed the Appointees into their respective offices, as follows :—

R. W.	Charles C. Dame, of Newburyport,	Deputy Grand Master.
"	Charles L. Woodbury, of Boston,	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W.	Rev. William R. Alger, of Boston,	} G. Chaplains.
"	Rev. William S. Studley, of Boston,	
"	William D. Stratton, of Boston,	Grand Marshal.
"	Henry W. Muzzey, of Cambridge,	Grand Sword Bearer.
"	Samuel P. Oliver, of Boston,	Senior Grand Deacon.
"	Henry Mulliken, of Brookline,	Junior Grand Deacon.
"	John A. Goodwin, of Lowell,	} Grand Stewards.
"	H. Tabor, 2d, New Bedford,	
"	Lovell Bicknell, of East Weymouth,	
"	F. L. Winship, Brighton,	
"	F. J. Foss, of Malden,	} Grand Pursuivants.
"	Henry L. Dalton, of Boston,	
"	E. D. Bancroft, of Groton Junction,	} Grand Lecturers.
"	L. H. Gamwell, of Pittsfield,	
"	J. K. Hayward, of Boston,	
"	Horace G. Barrows, of Boston,	Grand Organist.
"	William H. Kent, of Charlestown,	Grand Chorister.
"	Eben F. Gay, of Boston,	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W.	James A. Fox, of Boston,	District No.	1.
"	William Sutton, of Salem,	"	2.
"	W. F. Salmon, of Lowell,	"	3.
"	H. C. Skinner, of Milford,	"	4.
"	J. P. Lovell, of East Weymouth,	"	5.
"	Rev. J. W. Dadinun, of Roxbury,	"	6.
"	L. W. Lovell, of Bridgewater,	"	7.
"	Rev. R. S. Pope, of Hyannis,	"	8.
"	Henry Chickering, of Pittsfield,	"	9.
"	David W. Crafts, of Northampton,	"	10.
"	Wm. E. Parmenter, of West Cambridge,	"	11.
"	Newell A. Thompson, of Boston,	"	12.
"	George H. Kendall, Deputy, Valparaiso, for Chili, S. A.,	"	13.

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY.

Winslow Lewis, J. H. Sheppard, W. S. Gardner.

COMMITTEE ON CHARITY.

S. H. Gregory, William Read, E. F. Gay, L. L. Tarbell, Edward Stearns.

The usual proclamation was made by the Grand Marshal.

The M. W. Grand Master then read his Annual Address.

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN—With the ceremonies of Installation just completed, the labors of the present year are closed and another page of history is added to the time honored records of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Through your kind preferences, my Brethren, I have been for the third time called to the highest Masonic honor, and be assured I am deeply impressed with the honor and responsibility, and I most sincerely thank you. Before I shall lay before you the account of my stewardship, I ask you, one and all, individually and collectively, to join with me in aspirations of devout gratitude to Almighty God for the unnumbered blessings we have been permitted to enjoy—while war—terrible fratricidal, bloody and wicked, has divided our beloved country and shaken its institutions to their very foundations—while our relations North and South have been broken asunder and almost destroyed—while many portions of our land have been suffering from invasion, we have been permitted by the blessings of God to quietly meet undisturbed either by invasion or the horrors of war; we have been allowed to assemble around our altars and pursue the blessed mission of our Institution secure in social peace and free of harm. We have been blessed with a success hitherto unequalled—and an accession of numbers altogether unparalleled in a new, and more especially in an old established jurisdiction like this of ours.

Our accession of numbers has been from the best portions of the community; and all the old Lodges as well as new, have been doing a large, and as I have reason to believe, a safe business. A spirit of harmony pervades our whole jurisdiction and more than ordinary courtesy exists among the country Lodges. The year has been full of history to us! Never since the establishment of our Institution in this country has there been such large accessions to our numbers. Men of all ranks, but more especially from the active business walks and the higher social relations are pressing forward and asking to join our standard—while it becomes us to encourage all truly good men,

who have a clear, fair, unblemished reputation and character, by giving them a membership, it also becomes the imperative duty of every earnest and true-hearted Brother, to carefully guard the approaches to our sanctuary—admit no man of a bad or even questionable reputation—for such only seek us for selfish ends; and however worthy or otherwise influential, they are simply notorious, and will always be found to deceive the moment they are admitted to our confidence.

It is my earnest exhortation to you, one and all, to use extreme caution in your admissions; do not *for any one in any way* lessen the highest possible standard of moral excellence to be demanded of a candidate before passing our portals.

In this connection let me observe there is existing a misapprehension about rejected candidates—some Brethren think they may have permission from another Lodge. This is not so. No candidate can be proposed to any other Lodge *after rejection*—unless upon the recommendation of the *Master, Wardens and three Brethren* of the Lodge where he was rejected. *This is an imperative law.* Permission cannot be given, it must be a recommendation.

During the year, I have been in constant personal intercourse with the officers of most Lodges, and that intercourse has been a source of very great satisfaction; the utmost courtesy and good will—the strongest loyalty to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and the most earnest desire to *pursue the right* has been manifest in every Brother who has sought me for advice; and it has left a deep impression upon my mind as to the sure growth of our principles when the fact appears, that in no single instance during the year, *has an unkind* or un-Masonic word or sentiment been expressed by those who have sought advice from me as Grand Master.

All the Lodges now under Dispensation are in a flourishing condition; and every one will be likely to grow, and in due time will no doubt be honored with Charters. Without invidious distinction, I would observe that upon a visit to Amity Lodge, of Danvers,—since constituted,—made during the summer, I was most agreeably surprised at the absolute perfection with which the ritual was given—and the efficiency of every officer. This Lodge during the year of dispensation initiated no less than forty-three in number.

Oct. 11, I made a visit to Wm. Parkman Lodge, of Winchester,—and though under Dispensation, and only a few months old, the Brethren with a most commendable liberality and perseverance have fitted a beautiful hall and ante-room in the most tasty manner. The work and ritual was beautifully presented, and the accessions brought in are just such ashlar as will tend to beautify our Temple.

A few days since in company with several Grand Officers, we made a visit to Hope Lodge, of Gardner, now under Dispensation; this Lodge's Dispensation is dated February 17, and had but seven petitioners. Since then they have conferred the degrees upon twenty-three candidates, and are doing well. The work exhibited was absolutely the most perfect I have ever seen; all the officers are excellent workmen and skillful lecturers; and no Brother is permitted to be advanced from one degree to another until he can pass a critical examination in presence of the assembled Lodge; a most excellent provision, which is earnestly commended to all Lodges, both old and new, and which will be found to largely advance the interest of every Lodge in which it may be adopted.

Army Lodges, though doing less the past than former years, are all doing work; and what is doing, so far as I can learn, is well performed. These Army Lodges are found to be a source of great Masonic pleasure to those who are permitted to enjoy their Communications.

DEGREES BY DISPENSATION.

The great prosperity of our Institution, and the vast numbers seeking admission thereto, has occasioned a call for Dispensations so great, as to cause very deep solicitude and anxiety in the minds of many, as to granting this means of initiation under any circumstances whatever.

It will be observed that although I have in every single case this past year insisted the name should be presented at the regular Communications, yet the large number of one hundred and fifty-six Dispensations has been granted by your Grand Master alone.

This has occasioned me a good deal of solicitude and earnest thought, for I am fully satisfied that such accessions as come to us by Dispensation, are *far less* valuable than would be the *like number* presented in the ordinary way. Few of them become affiliated and contributing members—while most of them go immediately abroad—and at once assume our extended useful connection with men of every sect, country and language; always obtaining what little of the Ritual they may, from the body initiating them at a cost of an extra meeting, which, with us in Boston, is quite equal to the whole sum of admission. I would respectfully suggest for consideration some such regulation as this:—From and after date no person shall hereafter receive the three degrees of Freemasonry by Dispensation, except upon payment of ten dollars for the three degrees, if at one time; or the sum

of four dollars for each degree so received separately—the above named fee in addition to the regular fees for degrees in the Lodge where proposed; and one half of such extra fee to be paid into the hands of the District Deputy for the use of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

To the District Deputies are due my most sincere thanks for their fidelity, zeal and untiring watchfulness of the important trusts committed to their hands. The duties in every District have been much larger than in any former year; but they have been performed in every case in the most satisfactory manner. Many of the Districts have become by recent additions considerably enlarged, but such is the prompt and efficient action of my excellent co-workers, that with two single exceptions, every Lodge has had the pleasure and honor of an official visit once, and many have twice, and some more often. Among the country Lodges a custom is obtaining of inviting upon visitations, delegations of the Brethren from neighboring Lodges to be present; it is an excellent custom, and productive of great good; and while it always promotes social feelings—the fact that upon these occasions many assemble around the social board and break bread together, warms and stimulates all to higher and more earnest action.

The Reports of the Deputies are all full, explicit and complete; and, where all are so excellent, special mention may be deemed invidious. I have, therefore, submitted them all for your examination, and they will be printed at length in our Annual Proceedings. I trust, my Brethren, you will one and all, feel equally grateful with me to the Deputies when you shall carefully examine those excellent Reports, which will inform you how every Lodge in our jurisdiction is working. I herewith submit for your inspection a detailed report of the work of the year.

OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

In this department our correspondence is very limited. Our relations with all the Grand Lodges are pleasant, and we are in receipt of the Annual Proceedings of every Grand Lodge in the United States. They are placed upon the shelves of our Library, subject to the perusal of any Brother who may desire to inspect them. They are full of information, but mostly of a local character, and I have deemed it wiser to so refer the Brethren than to present extracts therefrom. To our sister Grand Lodge of Maine, we have respectfully referred in another connexion.

A SYNOPSIS OF WORK.

We have now under our jurisdiction,	
Chartered Lodges,	130
Lodges under Dispensation,	16
Army Lodges,	11
	<hr/>
Total,	157

I have granted Dispensations for those who have been proposed at Regular Communications; in all cases of the Lodges, one hundred and forty-six.

Dispensations to residents now out of the State, to receive the degrees in other jurisdictions, four.

Initiations in Districts one to twelve,

1—252. 2—211. 3—217. 4—116. 5—156. 6—146. 7—185.
8—97. 9—179. 10—150. 11—223. 12—405.

Under jurisdiction, 134—making a total of 2,473—and Army returns, not yet in, probably 75; making in round numbers above twenty-five hundred.

Our whole number affiliated in Massachusetts, twelve thousand and upwards. For detailed condition of Lodges see District Deputies Reports.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Jan. 4. Public Installation of the Officers of Liberty Lodge, Beverly.

Jan. 16. Visited Pequossette Lodge, Watertown.

Jan. 20. Visited Wyoming Lodge.

Jan. 26. Public Installation of the Officers of Ashler Lodge, Rockport.

March. Visited Warren Lodge, Amesbury.

August. Visited Starr King Lodge, Salem, under Dispensation.

Aug. 9. Visited Amity Lodge, Danvers, under Dispensation.

Aug. 31. Visited Merrimac Lodge, Haverhill.

Sept. Visited Old Colony Lodge.

Oct. 10. In company with Bro. Moore, by invitation of the District Deputy, we visited St. Paul's Lodge at Groton. It was the occasion of the Annual visit of the District Deputy, which, agreeably to the custom with this Lodge, takes place in the day-time—the

Lodge being assembled at high-twelve at the Old Tavern at Groton—always partake of an annual old fashioned substantial dinner.

Upon this occasion the ceremonies were of a peculiar and interesting character; many old Masonic Brothers were present, and after partaking of the substantial food a very delightful hour was passed in listening to the reminiscences of olden times. The Lodge was then formed and proceeded in a body to Masonic Hall near by, where we witnessed an exhibition of the Master's degree, which was conferred in a style of peculiar excellence—reflecting great credit upon the present officers, for the fidelity with which the ritual and ceremonial was given. Though dating as far back as 1797, none of the ancient fire is lost. The old members were literally there, and the good old custom is still retained for the Senior Deacon or some officer to take the new initiate and personally introduce him to every Brother present.

Upon the evening of the same day, we visited Caleb Butler Lodge, at Groton Junction—this is an offspring from St. Paul's, and is a worthy daughter of a most excellent parental example.

Both of these Lodges are largely indebted to Br. Bancroft for their proficiency—and he is rewarded for his faithful labors by the fact that the two Lodges in his native town are a model for the most exact imitation.

Oct. 11. Visited Wm. Parkman Lodge, Winchester.

Nov. 1. Visited Tyrian Lodge, Gloucester.

Nov. 9. Public Installation of Officers of Meridian Lodge, Natick.

Nov. 11. Visited Winslow Lewis Lodge, Boston, with District Deputy.

Nov. 15. Visited Belmont Lodge, Belmont, under Dispensation.

Nov. 17. Public Installation of Officers of Rural Lodge, Quincy.

Nov. 20. Visited Mount Vernon Lodge, and installed the Officers.

Dec. 1. Visited Mount Vernon Lodge, of Malden. A public presentation of a beautiful Banner, by the ladies of Malden.

Dec. 6. Visited Hope Lodge, of Gardner, under Dispensation.

Dec. 8. Public Installation of the Officers of Blue Hill Lodge, South Canton.

Dec. 17. Public Installation of the Officers of Germania Lodge,

Boston, now nine years old, and in excellent condition. The Lodge is working in the German language.

In addition to the foregoing named visits, I have, as far as my time would permit, visited the Lodges in and about Boston, making about forty visits additional during the past year.

THE GRAND LODGE HAVE BEEN PRESENT AT FUNERALS.

June 9. R. W. J. B. Hammatt, P. G. Warden.

July 19. R. W. P. Stearn Davis, Past Master of Putnam Lodge, East Cambridge.

Aug. 4. R. W. Past Grand Master E. A. Raymond.

At the Quarterly Session in September last, appropriate action was taken on the above.

There have been granted the following

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW LODGES.

Dec. 28, 1863. Doric Lodge, Feltonville. Philip E. Mallay, W. M.—W. C. Hardem, S. W.—A. R. Graves, J. W., and 12 others.

Jan. 18, 1864. Parkman Lodge of Instruction, at Newburyport, made up from members of St. Mark and St. John's Lodges.

Feb. 17. Hope Lodge, at Gardner. Charles Heywood, W. M.—H. C. Hill, S. W.—Edward L. Sawyer, J. W., and 4 others.

March 4. May Flower Lodge, Middleboro'. J. Shaw, W. M.—C. H. Carpenter, S. W.—R. B. Barnes, J. W., and 5 others.

March 8. Belmont Lodge. Wm. B. Bothomly, W. M.—Wm. W. Mead, S. W.—O. M. Homer, J. W., and 8 others.

March 11. Roswell Lee Lodge, Springfield. E. W. Clarke, W. M.—Isaac D. Gibbens, S. W.—W. T. Ingraham, J. W., and 9 others.

April 13. Starr King Lodge, Salem. Geo. H. Pierson, W. M.—Dana Z. Smith, S. W.—Joel F. Brown, J. W., and 19 others.

May 9. Wm. Parkman Lodge, Winchester. Albion R. P. Joy, W. M.—James F. Stone, S. W.—Abijah Thompson, 3d, J. W., and 17 others.

May 24. St. James Lodge, Mansfield. W. G. Allen, W. M.—W. B. Bates, S. W.—Wm. Graves, J. W., and 20 others.

July 4. Star Lodge, Athol. A. Atwood, W. M.—D. W. Houghton, S. W.—O. C. Knox, J. W., and 23 others.

July 14. United Lodge, Huntington. Joseph Hutchinson, W. M.—B. F. Field, S. W.—E. H. Lathrop, J. W., and 15 others.

July 15. North Star, Ashland. E. Holbrook, W. M.—J. E. King, S. W.—J. H. Balcom, J. W., and 13 others.

Aug. 12. John T. Heard Lodge, Ipswich. John R. Baker, W. M.—Jas. H. Lakeman, S. W.—John S. Glover, J. W., and 10 others.

Sept. 30. Fraternal Army Lodge—Dispensation renewed for one year.

Dec. 16. Saggahew Lodge, Haverhill. James E. Gale, W. M.—Daniel Fitts, S. W.—Charles W. Chase, J. W., and 24 others.

The following are the

CHARTERS GRANTED BY GRAND LODGE.

Jan. 5, 1864. Tuscan Lodge, Lawrence. Constituted and Installed the Officers.

March 15. Blue Hill Lodge, South Canton. Constituted and Installed the Officers.

March 18. Mount Olivet Lodge, Cambridge. Constituted and Installed the Officers.

March 21. Pioneer Lodge, Somerset. Constituted and Installed the Officers.

June 20. Eden Lodge, Ware. Constituted and Installed the Officers.

Sept. 14. Amity Lodge, Danvers. Constituted and Installed the Officers.

PUBLIC DEDICATIONS OF NEW HALLS.

Jan. 5, 1864. Dedicated a new Hall at Lawrence, to be occupied by Tuscan Lodge and other Masonic Bodies. A very beautiful room, tastefully decorated and furnished with a beautiful organ.

March 15. Dedicated a new Hall at South Canton, to be occupied by Blue Hill Lodge. Very small but very neat and appropriate.

March 18. Dedicated a new Hall at Cambridge, to be occupied by Mount Olivet Lodge. Fitted up expressly for them and very commodious.

March 21. Dedicated a new Hall at Somerset. A small room, very neatly and appropriately fitted up—reflects great credit upon

this new Lodge just established, who have erected it at their own cost.

June 15. Dedicated a new Hall, with commodious ante-rooms, for Hiram Lodge, at West Cambridge.

Nov. 3. Dedicated a new Hall, and very commodious suits of apartments, for Union Lodge, of Dorchester. The occasion was one of great interest as several very old Masons were present; some of whom have been members of that Lodge more than fifty years.

LOSS OF FREEMASONS' HALL BY FIRE.

Upon the night of April fifth, last past, a destructive fire broke out in the Winthrop House, immediately under the stairway leading to the Masonic Apartments. The fire was discovered about 11 o'clock, by Bro. Geo. Pike, deputy Superintendent. He, with two other Brethren, were just leaving the building for the night; an alarm was immediately given to the people in the Winthrop House; but the flames spread with such rapidity, that not a single person passed over the stairway into the Masonic Apartments, after the alarm. In about three hours the whole building was consumed, and in place of our beautiful Halls and convenient fixtures, which were left over night, the morning found us with only a heap of smouldering and blackened ruins.

With the exception of the contents of the Grand Lodge safe, everything was either burned, lost or destroyed.

All our splendid Regalias, Pictures, Library, Memorials, and our Organs, one of which cost alone \$1800; *all, all*, in one common ruin, and with a loss to the fraternity of uninsured property not less than \$75,000. This was a heavy blow, not only upon the Grand Lodge, but upon the Masonic bodies of Boston.

But our ardor was not dampened nor our hope for a moment darkened; by eight o'clock the next morning, through the kindness of our Bro. Odd Fellows, who kindly placed their apartments at our disposal, we were enabled to hold our meetings without interruption.

On the eighth of April we leased our present apartments, and in the short space of fourteen days they were fitted and ready for occupancy; and from the twenty-fourth of April, all Masonic Communications have been held in these very commodious apartments.

In this connexion I would acknowledge the receipt of a letter of sympathy from our Worshipful Bro. W. P. Preble, Grand Master of Maine, and with it a valuable bundle of pamphlets, to which I return-

ed a suitable reply. Also a letter from Holland Lodge, of New York city; a very kind offer from Bro. S. C. Lawrence, in behalf of Trustees of Nassau Hall, and also an Official Communication from the Trustees of Old Fulton Hall, offering in the most generous manner their respective Halls, and accommodations; to all of which suitable replies were returned. To our sister Institution of Odd Fellows we are largely indebted, for they not only offered in the most unqualified manner their very commodious Halls, when unoccupied by themselves, but tendered us the use of their smaller apartments *at any and all times*; offering to arrange their own meetings at such times as should most convenience the Masonic Institution; and for which they merit, and have, in the most public manner, my unqualified and sincere thanks, as I know they will have the thanks of our Fraternity.

OUR NEW HALL.

Your Board of Directors have selected a plan for the outside of the new Masonic Hall, designed by Mr. Wheelock, an Architect of Boston; it is at once unique, chaste and beautiful; and upon our very excellent site will form an ornament which will be not only a beauty to the eye of all the community, but a matter of just pride to members of our beloved Institution. The foundations have been securely laid and finished; and upon the fourteenth of October last, the Corner-Stone was laid with imposing ceremonies, calling out one of the largest and most elegant Masonic displays ever witnessed on this continent.

Your Directors propose to proceed with the erection as soon as the unsettled state of the prices of building material will permit us to make contracts with safety. A complete description of the laying of this corner-stone will appear in the Annual Proceedings of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and to that I refer for the details.

OUR CHARITIES.

This all important branch of Masonic duty has the past year received your continued and earnest attention.

At every Quarterly Communication of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge you have placed to the credit of your Charity Committees liberal supplies of money, which has been carefully, and, as I believe, in all cases, judiciously dispensed. Many new cases have been brought to the notice of your Committees, and, whenever the case of a proper applicant has been presented in writing, vouched for by the Master and Wardens of the nearest Lodge to the place of residence of

the applicant, or if so vouched by some known Brother, it has been promptly laid before the Committee, and has received substantial aid and assistance. Many a weary old Brother has found this Masonic field in which he labored in his early life, in his age and time of need, yielded him a rich harvest; many a needy traveller, sick and among strangers, have found a friendly hand to help, and often furnish the means to send him to his destination.

The widow and orphan have not been forgotten. They have been blessed with our help, and kind sympathy. And in these Charities there is a double blessing to them whom kind Providence has permitted to be stewards of his bounty.

It is a fair tradition, one of old,
That, at the Gate of Heaven called Beautiful,
The souls of those to whom we ministered
On earth shall greet us as we enter in
With grateful records of those lowly deeds
Of Christian Charity wherewith frail man
Proffers his humble loan unto the Lord.

May we not so believe, since He hath said
That, inasmuch as it was done to one
Of those His little ones, 't was done to Him?

Oh, think, if this be true, how many eyes
Whose weeping thou hast stilled shall glisten there;
How many hearts whose burden thou hast shared,
And heavy feet whose steps were turned by thee
Back to their homes, elastic through the joy
Of new found hope, and sympathy and love,
Shall welcome thee within the Gates of Bliss,—
The Golden City of Jerusalem.

OUR PROSPECTS

Are cheering. We hope, nay, we know, we shall go forward with confidence and joy—we are a unit; and while we have undertaken this great work, let us all remember that with one purpose, with one mind, one wish, the desire and will to help each other, our work shall go bravely on.

While we work let us all remember to be thankful to our Heavenly Father for all our blessings, and that in good time, with patience and perseverance, all our hopes shall be fully accomplished. That this may be, let us all earnestly pray. So mete it be.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Gardner, it was

Voted, That the printing of the Constitutions in the next publication of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, be dispensed with.

R. W. Brother Coolidge offered the following Resolutions, which were accepted :—

It having pleased the Almighty Disposer of events to remove from this life our R. W. and Rev. Brother Huntoon, of Canton, a Past Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, we desire to place upon our Records a tribute of respect, however imperfect it may be, to his memory.

He received the degrees in St. John's Lodge, in this city, about the year 1819, and from that time until his death, a term of more than forty years, was a much beloved and honored member of our Fraternity.

His Masonic Addresses were numerous, and several of them printed. On the 4th of July, 1825, he delivered the Oration, on the occasion of laying, in Masonic form, the Corner-Stone of the Court House at Dedham, in the County of Norfolk; and in the year 1842, he pronounced a Eulogy on the life and character of the Rev. Thaddeus Mason Harris, Past Grand Chaplain and Historiographer of the Grand Lodge. This last named duty, he performed by invitation of the Grand Lodge, in their presence, and in presence also of the widow, family and friends of the deceased.

In the course of his life he sustained, with honor to himself, many Masonic places of trust. In the years 1849, 1850, and 1851, he presided over the Grand Chapter; and, at an earlier period, held the office of District Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Chaplain in the Grand Lodge; and, subsequently, was elected Sen. Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge.

In all the relations of life he has left an example worthy of imitation. His genial temper, affable manners, urbanity, and kindness of heart, secured to him the respect and affection of a large circle of friends, who, while they mourn his loss, are consoled in the belief, that he is now among those, of whom it is said,—“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.” Therefore

Resolved, That in the death of R. W. Rev. Bro. Benjamin Huntoon, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the Fraternity of Freemasons, have sustained the loss of one dearly beloved and most deeply respected; and, while we mourn his removal, we feel grateful that he was spared to us so long; and that we will ever cherish the memory of his virtues, and exemplary character.

Resolved, That this Preamble and Resolutions be entered on the Records of the Grand Lodge, and a copy of the same be communicated to his family.

THOMAS TOLMAN.
WM. D. COOLIDGE.
J. W. DADMUN.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form, at half-past 9 o'clock, when the Brethren present, moved in procession to the Banqueting Hall, where they spent an agreeable hour in celebrating the Festival of their Patron Saint.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

FIRST DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts,—

I have the honor to submit my Report, as District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District, for the year which has just closed.

I have officially visited every Lodge in the District; and, as required by the Constitutions, have inspected their By-Laws, Records, and mode of Work.

I have also received the Annual Returns from each of said Lodges, and, on the 18th of November last, transmitted the same to the R. W. Grand Treasurer, together with all fees, due to M. W. Grand Lodge, from them.

The number of initiations has been very large, but the returns show that all who have applied have not been admitted, and I am of opinion that due care has generally been observed, and that the additions thus made to our ranks have been of such a character as to reflect honor upon our Ancient Institution.

The Lodges in the District are all, in my judgment, in excellent condition.

In all my visits, I have been extremely gratified to observe the same spirit prevailing; the most ready acknowledgment of entire loyalty to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and an earnest effort to do everything possible to promote the good of Masonry in general, and of the respective Lodges in particular.

During the early part of the year, many applications for Dispensations to confer two or more degrees at one meeting, were granted.

I have, however, always expressed the opinion that it was desirable to waive the Constitutional provisions on this subject only in the most extreme cases. The Worshipful Masters of the District have generally agreed with me in this opinion, and I am happy to be able to re-

port that, during the last six months of the year, only two or three Dispensations have been applied for.

My visits have been to me, personally, a source of very great pleasure, not only on account of the great cordiality and overflowing hospitality with which I have always been received, but also on account of the excellence of the Work, and the truly Masonic spirit exhibited on every occasion.

I shall always remember, with pride and pleasure, my connection with the Lodges of the First Masonic District.

Very respectfully and fraternally, yours,

SERENO D. NICKERSON,

D. D. G. M., First Masonic District.

Boston, Dec. 17, 1864.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WM. PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,—

In closing another year of my official duties as District Deputy Grand Master for the Second Masonic District, I have the honor herewith, respectfully, to submit my Fifth Annual Report.

I have during the past year visited, officially or otherwise, every Lodge in my District, whenever and as often as my presence was deemed useful or necessary for the encouragement of their officers, or the promotion of their welfare. Everywhere I have been received with that fraternal kindness and cordiality which is the distinguishing characteristic of the true Mason, and everywhere I have found the Brethren zealous and loyal.

The number of Lodges in my District, as you are aware, is *eleven*, working under *Charters*. To these, two have recently been added by Dispensation; one, located in the old and thriving town of Ipswich, and the other in the city of Salem. I am happy to add, that these are in faithful hands, and I anticipate for them a prosperous future.

The number of affiliated members of the Lodges in the District is 1155, and the number of initiates, the past year, is 253. These two facts will indicate to you, more clearly than any words of my own, the present healthy and prosperous condition of the Lodges under my charge. And when I add, that to the best of my information and belief, "all due care and diligence," and a just discrimination, have been exercised in the selection and admission of candidates, I have said all that need be said, in this particular, in justice to the faithful-

ness of the officers of these Lodges, and to insure for them your personal thanks, and the continued confidence of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

It will be gratifying to you to learn, as it is peculiarly so for me to say, that the good old Masonic custom of "reciprocal visits" among the Lodges has been revived, and has obtained, to a very considerable extent, throughout the District, with the most gratifying results. They have brought the Brethren "together in unity," and while they have made them personally acquainted with each other, they have contributed to rekindle and re-vivify the latent fire of fraternal love, in the hearts of all. But beyond this, they afford the Brethren an opportunity for an agreeable and profitable interchange of thoughts and opinions—"to take counsel together"—to compare their work, and to discuss such minor topics of usage and government, as are essential to the right-management and well-being of their respective Lodges. So much importance do I attach to this practice, that I recommend it to the consideration of the Lodges in other Districts.

With many thanks for the repeated honors I have received at your hands, and at those of your honored predecessor, and with my best wishes for your individual happiness, and the continued prosperity of the M. W. Grand Lodge, over which you so worthily preside,

I am, fraternally yours,

WILLIAM SUTTON.

Salem, Dec. 14, 1864.

THIRD DISTRICT.

To M. W. WM. PARKMAN, *Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts*,—

The term for which you appointed me as District Deputy in the Third District, is drawing near to its close, and I am reminded that you expect an account of my stewardship, thereby enabling you to judge of the condition of the Lodges under my special charge.

I have visited each of the twelve Lodges at least once during the year, some of them several times, and have to report, that while some consider themselves, and may be considered as better than others in many respects, all are earnestly striving to stand in the front rank, and each shows an improvement since the last year; it would therefore be invidious to particularize, and it is with great pleasure that I say they are all in excellent condition, and only need a better *average attendance*, to make them illustrate my idea of what Lodges ought to be.

The following table, giving the whole number of members, number present at time of official visit, number of initiates, number of rejections, &c., will show at a glance the standing of the Lodges, as regards work and attendance.

LODGES.	Date of official visit.	Whole number of Members.	Members present on official visit.	Visitors present on official visit.	Initiations for 1 year to Sept. 1, 1884.	Rejections for 1 year to Sept. 1, 1884.
	1864.					
St. Paul's, * Ins.	Oct. 11.	85	20	12	6	4
Corinthian, S.	Nov. 22.	57	18	0	11	0
Aurora, †	Nov. 21.	118	48	10	16	15
Merrimack, Ins.	Nov. 2.	167	79	10	80	18
Pentucket, Ins.	Oct. 20.	215	89	2	29	15
St. Matthew's, Ins. † S.	Nov. 17.	55	12	0	12	8
Grecian, S.	Nov. 18.	188	80	6	80	9
Ancient York, Ins.	Oct. 26.	165	37	10	23	7
Caleb Butler, * S.	Oct. 11.	53	22	10	7	4
Wilder, O	Sept. 27.	53	34	9	18	4
John Hancock, †	Oct. 27.	48	20	0	19	1
Tuscan, †	Sept. 12.	52	28	7	25	6
		1201	882	76	228	86

*M. W. Grand Master present. Ins. Installed Officers. 0 Public Installation. S. Special Meeting at request of Deputy. †Stormy.

My predecessor in this District, has done much to establish a happy condition of affairs, and his suggestions, always of value, have proved "good seed" falling upon "good ground and bringing forth fruit in abundance."

The amount of work done has been very large, nearly doubling that of any previous year, and our District is not exempt from the pressure for Masonic degrees, which has been so great in other places, and which has given rise to the query, "whether those outside of the Order will not soon be the most select body." Too much care cannot be used in scrutinizing the character and *motives* of those applying for admission to our Order, and I have felt it my duty to charge the various Lodges in the Third District, to select their candidates with the utmost caution, ever bearing in mind, that the work done in the present, is to be tried by the future, and that a time *may* come, when adversity will take the place of our present prosperity, and the dark cloud of ignorance and political persecution threaten our Institution,

as it has in the past; that cloud must pass over us without harm, if our candidates all bear within them a love of truth, and devotion to the fulfillment of freely assumed obligations; its lightning may flash and threaten, but the tips of "Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth," jutting out from faithful Masonic breasts, will catch and conduct the dangerous sparks, into springs which will easily dissipate their vicious influence.

The large number of rejections, say thirty per cent. of the whole number applying, while it speaks favorably for the care and discrimination of the Lodges as a whole, tells against the judgment of individual members.

I believe it to be the duty of a member of a Lodge, to ascertain something of the feeling of his associates, before presenting a petition, and never to present one where the chances are against its receiving favorable action; a little attention to this matter, will be apt to save some unpleasant feelings within the Lodge, and much scandal without.

In the matter of Dispensations, as in everything else, I have endeavored to carry out your wishes, believing it to be more within the line of my duty to carry out the plans of my superior, than to develop plans of my own, even though I may be considered by some as in the possession of a "*Constitutional right*" to act somewhat independently.

I called the attention of the Masters of the various Lodges, to that portion of your address touching upon Dispensations, giving my views more fully, and am happy to say that they have all, as I believe, endeavored to assist me in the performance of this most difficult part of my duty; in spite of their endeavors and mine, I find that I have granted twenty-eight Dispensations during the year, and all of them for apparently "sound and urgent reasons," as may be seen by reference to letters on file.

Of these twenty-eight, ten were for balloting and conferring degrees at special meetings, where the petitions had been regularly received and referred; the remaining eighteen, for shortening time between degrees simply. All application for receiving *petitions* at special meetings have been refused.

I have yielded to custom, rather than to my own convictions of the right, in granting Dispensations to *ballot*, on the applications of soldiers home on furlough, or those first joining the army, and trust that the time is near at hand, when Dispensations for *balloting*, "like angels visits to earth will be few and far between;" when the Lodges will follow the custom of "Ancient York," at Lowell, and decline to receive

a petition, when they know a Dispensation is expected for a ballot thereon.

I submit herewith a statement of the Dispensations, which have been granted.

ST. PAUL'S Lodge, Groton. To confer 2d and 3d degrees upon one, home on furlough.

CORINTHIAN Lodge, Concord. To ballot and confer degrees on one, going away for health; to confer 2d and 3d degrees upon two, and 3d degree upon one; two civilians, called away from home, and one from army on furlough.

AURORA Lodge, Fitchburg. To ballot and confer degrees upon one, home on furlough; to confer 2d and 3d degrees on two, home on furlough.

MERRIMACK Lodge, Haverhill. To ballot and confer degrees on two, (one rejected,) home on furlough; to confer 2d and 3d degrees on two, home on furlough.

PENTUCKET, Lowell. To ballot and confer degrees on one, (rejected,) home on furlough; to confer 2d and 3d degrees on one, and 3d degree on one, home on furlough.

ST. MATTHEW'S, Andover. To ballot and confer degrees on one, home on furlough; to confer 3d degree on one, home on furlough; to confer 2d degree on one, work for official visit.

GRECIAN Lodge, Lawrence. To confer 3d degree on one, work for official visit.

ANCIENT YORK Lodge, Lowell. To confer 2d and 3d degrees on two, home on furlough; to confer 3d degree on one, leaving the State.

CALEB BUTLER, Groton Junction. To ballot and confer degrees on one, home on furlough; to confer 2d degree on one, work for official visit.

WILDER, Leominster. To confer 2d and 3d degrees on one, home on furlough.

JOHN HANCOCK, Methuen. To ballot and confer degrees on one, home on furlough.

TUSCAN, Lawrence. To ballot and confer degrees on one, home on furlough; to ballot and confer degrees on one, leaving the State.

One of the first duties which I had officially to perform, was to investigate the claims of the Brethren at Gardner, for a Lodge in that place. I visited Fitchburg and had an interview with the members

of Aurora Lodge, having jurisdiction over the petitioners, and being fully satisfied, approved the petition.

The Dispensation was duly granted, and though the Lodge is assigned to another District, I am happy to learn, that a thriving organization has been started.

My last official duty, was to approve the petition of Brethren at Haverhill, for a new Lodge in that town. The towns surrounding Haverhill, combined with its own industrious population, open such a wide field for Masonic labor, that the earnest appeal of zealous Masons, seconded by the unanimous voice of Merrimack Lodge, could not be withstood.

In conclusion, accept my thanks for the honor conferred in selecting me as your representative, and for the opportunity thus afforded for social and fraternal intercourse throughout the District.

With much respect, your obedient servant,
Lowell, December, 1864.

W. F. SALMON.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

MILFORD, DEC. 24, 1864.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts—

I have the honor to submit to you my third Annual Report as District Deputy Grand Master for District No. 4. And I am able to state that all the Lodges within my jurisdiction, have been during the year which is now closing, in a prosperous and thriving condition.

It affords me much pleasure to report that peace and harmony prevail among the members of the Fraternity; that the various Lodges are presided over by discreet officers, and their affairs are conducted with much propriety.

There have been many applications for Dispensations to confer the degrees of Masonry upon candidates in less time than is required by the laws of the Grand Lodge. All such applications that came within my province I have granted. One hundred and seventeen candidates have been initiated during the past year; an increase of forty-three over last year.

In closing this Report I desire to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy which have been accorded to me in visiting the Lodges in this District. I remain, Fraternally yours,

CHESTER L. CHAMBERLIN,

D. D. G. Master of the Fourth Masonic District.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

EAST WEYMOUTH, DEC. 27, 1864.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, *G. M. of the G. Lodge of Mass*—

Dear Sir and Brother—The time having arrived at which you will expect a report of my official action as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth Masonic District, I beg leave to submit the following brief Report:—

I have visited each of the Lodges under my jurisdiction (most of them with a full suit,) and find them all in a very flourishing condition. I very much doubt whether any of my colleagues on the Board of Dist. Deputies have had a more agreeable duty to perform than has fallen to me. The Junior Grand Lecturer has honored the delegation by his presence on many of my visitations.

The Lodges in my District return seven hundred and five members, and one hundred and fifty-six initiations, as the following table will show:—

<i>Lodges.</i>	<i>Members.</i>	<i>Initiates.</i>
Old Colony,	69	14
Paul Revere,	86	31
Rural,	102	15
Orient,	43	9
Blue Hill,	20	6
Plymouth,	69	12
Rising Star,	70	15
John Cutler,	53	11
Norfolk Union,	38	9
Corner Stone,	29	9
Orphan's Hope,	126	25
	<hr/> 705	<hr/> 156

You will perceive that the number of initiates exceeds that of last year by sixty, and although the number that has been received is large, yet I am satisfied, so far as I can learn, that extraordinary care has been taken to admit none except those worthy of the distinguished honor.

I have had several applications for Dispensations to shorten the time required by the Constitutions in conferring the degrees; in most cases it has been when the candidate was about to enter the service of his country; in such instances I have thought it my duty to grant them.

It seems proper that I should make particular mention of Blue Hill Lodge in this Report; a Charter having been given them in March last, you may be assured that under its very efficient head the Lodge will certainly meet with success.

Thanking you for the honor conferred by appointing me District Deputy Grand Master, and the Lodges for the courtesy with which they have received me as your representative,

I remain, very respectfully and Fraternally,

JOHN P. LOVELL.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Masler of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts—

In making my returns to the Grand Lodge it is appropriate that I should give you a brief statement of the condition of my District.

“Harmony being the strength of all institutions, more particularly this of ours,” it gives me great pleasure to report peace and harmony throughout our borders. My official visits have been rendered exceedingly pleasant by the kind and courteous manner in which I have been received in all the Lodges of my District.

The rapid growth of the Masonic Institution, at the present time, is an occasion of deep solicitude on the part of every lover of the Order. In 1859 the number of initiates in the 6th District was thirty-three. This year the number is one hundred and forty-six, not including those initiated in the Lodges under Dispensation. This is a large increase within the short space of five years, and yet I believe the Lodges, generally, have exercised due caution in admitting candidates. For example, Morning Star Lodge, Worcester, received seventy-three applications, thirty-seven of which were rejected. Certainly this is *one* evidence that due inquiry was made into the character of the applicants. It has been my special care to urge the Lodges not to admit any but good men and true.

Three new Lodges have been formed in the District during the past year:—Eden Lodge, Ware; Doric Lodge, Feltonville, and Hope Lodge, Gardner. The latter, it strikes me, should be in the 10th, or 3d District. Two Lodges, Eden, at Ware, and Hayden, at Brookfield, have obtained Charters, and have been duly constituted by the Grand Lodge. All of these Lodges are in a prosperous condition.

Of the other Lodges it is hardly necessary that I should speak in detail, when all are striving to stand by the ancient land-marks of the

Order. In our prosperity may we humbly depend upon the Supreme Architect and Builder of the Universe.

I remain, Fraternally, your obedient servant,

J. W. DADMUN, *D. D. G. M. 6th District.*

Roxbury, Nov. 30, 1864.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts—

SIR—Herewith I have the honor to submit to you my Annual Report.

It is with much satisfaction that I am able to say that all the Lodges in this District are in a prosperous condition. At no time during the several years which I have held the office, have I found a greater degree of interest prevalent in the District, generally, than during the present year.

Notwithstanding the unsettled state of everything affecting the general welfare, the number of Masons made in the 7th District largely exceeds any previous year under my observation; and I think I may safely add, that the work has been well done, and more strictly in conformity with instructions given by the Grand Lecturers than ever before.

I have personally visited the several Lodges in the District; some of them several times, and, in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, have examined the Charters, By-Laws and Records, and seen much of the Work which has been generally of the most gratifying character.

During the year there has been one hundred and eighty-five initiations in the ten Chartered Lodges. Amount due the Grand Lodge six hundred and fifteen dollars.

The two Lodges under Dispensation, viz:—Mayflower and St. James, are doing well, and bid fair to become prosperous Lodges.

The number of affiliated Masons in the 7th District at the present time is over eleven hundred.

In connection with this Report it seems proper that I should say, that being absent from the State much of the time in the early part of the year, the Regalia and other property which would otherwise have been in my possession as District Deputy, was unfortunately in your Office at the time of the memorable fire in April last, and I am not aware that any Regalia has since been provided.

In closing, I again take the opportunity to thank you for the honor conferred upon me, and most respectfully decline a reappointment.

Wishing you long life and true happiness, I remain,

Faternally yours,

J. M. COOK.

Foxboro, Nov. 28, 1864.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

M. W. Grand Master WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq.—

Dear Sir and Brother—The time has arrived when it becomes my duty to render an account of the Stewardship to which you was pleased to call me one year ago, and for the honor of which, and the confidence and friendship implied, you will permit me to tender my sincere thanks.

In making my Annual Report of the condition of the Lodges in this District, I have but little to communicate in addition to that of my last, as nothing has transpired out of the usual course of things worthy of note. It gives me great pleasure to say, that so far as regards the unity, peace and fraternity of the Brotherhood, and their fidelity and devotion to the Masonic Institution, "all is well."

Notwithstanding the war, still raging in the land, has engaged so much of the attention of the public mind; and notwithstanding the intense excitement, attending the recent Presidential campaign through which we have passed, and which tended to alienation and ill-feeling, no interest in the war, however absorbing, has seemed to have lessened in any degree the intense interest of the Lodges in Masonry; nor has any of the strange fire of political excitement been suffered to kindle upon their altars to alienate fraternal friendship, and to disturb the harmony and kind fellowship which should ever distinguish Masonic Brothers.

In this District an unusually large proportion of the younger men in the community have been absent the past year—some at sea, some in the army and navy—and yet the number of applicants who have been accepted, has been more than equal to that of former years. The whole number is ninety-nine, viz: Union Lodge, Nantucket, eleven; Pilgrim, Harwich, twenty-six; King Hiram, Provincetown, fifteen; Fraternal, Hyannis, eight; Marine, Falmouth, four; Mt. Herib, West Harwich, twenty-one, and Martha's Vineyard, Tisbury, eight.

It will be seen from the above, that three of the Lodges have done

a large amount of work ; especially the two within the territorial limits of the town of Harwich. So far as the increase of numbers is concerned, these, and most of the Lodges in this District, may be said to have enjoyed what is *called* a high degree of prosperity the past year. But I have long been somewhat fearful that this kind of prosperity might prove in the end of no real value, if not a serious injury to our Lodges, and to the good reputation of Masonry. I have felt there was danger in making Masons so fast,—in making Masonry so common,—and that there was no little fallacy in the idea entertained by some, that Masonry being a good Institution, no matter how many come into it, the more the better, providing they are men of ordinary good character. We find in nature that rapid growth is generally followed by early and rapid decay ; and it is a question whether the same may not prove true of Masonic Lodges.

Where so many, in proportion to the mass of a country community, are admitted to the privileges of an Order, it is hardly possible that all should be “ worthy and well qualified,” and reflect credit upon the Masonic profession. Some will be induced to seek admission through undue influence of friends ; some from motives of curiosity, or of mere selfishness. And however unexceptionable their general moral character, will be likely, in the end, to prove very poor, if not very troublesome Masons. I have therefore made it a matter of special duty in my official visit to those Lodges that have done a large amount of work, to utter a word of caution to the Brethren ; to counsel them to exercise the utmost care as to who they receive to the honors of Masonry ; and in all cases to consider well these questions in reference to every applicant—not is he man of ordinary good character, against whom nothing in particular can be said—but is he a man of sterling integrity, and moral worth ? Will he make a good Mason, and a true and faithful Brother ? and then act accordingly. I have instructed them that Masonry is a *privilege* conferred upon whomsoever we will, and not a right to be demanded by whosoever may choose ; and that it is not every man of general good moral character that will make a good Mason, and a good Masonic Brother. How far this will meet your approval I know not, but I prize Masonry very highly, and I have felt that the Institution was in peril from this rapid increase of numbers, and therefore taken the liberty to counsel as above.

In my official visits, last year, I called the attention of the Lodges to a more general practical knowledge of the work, and urged the importance of every Mason perfecting himself in the ritual of Masonry. And I am happy to say that there has been a marked improvement in

this respect; that more interest is felt in the matter by the members in general, who have heretofore been content with simply the signs, words and tokens; and that a commendable effort is being made in most of the Lodges to acquire Masonic knowledge, which promises well for the future.

Renewedly thanking you for the honor of my appointment, I remain,
Fraternally and truly yours,

R. S. POPE, *D. D. G. M. 8th Masonic District.*

NINTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER—Another Masonic year draws towards its close, and having, in the execution of the commission devolved upon me by your appointment as District Deputy Grand Master, visited the Lodges in this, the Ninth District, and discharged the duties of my office, according to my ability, I herewith submit a brief Report of the condition of these Lodges.

The geographical extent of this District, as you are aware, is very large—and it may be a question whether it would not be well to divide it—rendering necessary a good deal of travel, and the expenditure of considerable time, to visit all the Lodges. Still, I have visited every chartered Lodge in the District, during the year, and some of them several times, (nearly all more than once,) and have always, and everywhere, been welcomed and received, as your representative, cordially, and with all the courtesy and attention which is due to the office. At the time arranged for the annual official visit to Cincinnati Lodge, at Great Barrington, I was absent from the State, and R. W. Bro. L. H. Gamwell, Grand Lecturer, very kindly made the visit for me, in a most satisfactory manner, and making a full written report of the same.

I believe I may say that the Lodges, without exception, are enjoying that *harmony* which is the strength of all Institutions; that the members meet upon the *Level*, and are generally endeavoring to walk uprightly in their several stations, squaring their actions by the principles of morality and virtue.

A very commendable zeal also prevails among them, to perfect themselves in the work, ritual and lectures of the Degrees, and most of them are very accurate, and will, I am sure, compare favorably

with any Lodges in the State. Last year I had occasion to remark that two or three of them are not quite up to the standard I desired in this respect, but that they were endeavoring to perfect themselves, and would succeed. My prediction is being verified. Two of them have made very decided progress, and, I am confident, will not stop short of the mark. One of the Lodges in Berkshire County, I am sorry to say, is still *very* deficient. In point of numbers, and character of its members, it stands high. But it seems to have lacked in intelligent young men, who had the time or the disposition, to take hold and perfect themselves in the work, and it has therefore devolved upon elder men, who cannot so readily commit, and easily adapt themselves to the present authorized work. A new set of officers have just been installed however, who promise to take hold of the matter in earnest.

The additions to the membership of the Lodges by initiation have been very large, exceeding in the District, by eleven, that of the previous year, when it was larger than in any former year. The following table, giving the name and location of all the chartered Lodges in the District, will show the number of initiates in each, during the last and present year, and also the date of my official visit to them the present year :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Number of Initiates.		Date of Official Visit.
		1863.	1864.	
Cincinnatus,	Great Barrington,	9	12	November 10
Evening Star,	Lee,	4	8	October 12
Lafayette,	North Adams,	5	15	October 13
Wisdom,	W. Stockbridge,	8	12	October 27
Thomas,	Palmer,	21	15	October 31
Mystic,	Pittsfield,	5	13	November 9
Hampden,	Springfield,	84	58	November 1
Mt. Moriah,	Westfield,	24	27	November 2
Berkshire,	South Adams,	6	8	November 7
Day Spring,	Monson,	7	11	October 31
Total,		168	179	

This shows the total number of initiates for the year to be one hundred and seventy-nine. It will be noticed that every Lodge in the District, but two, increased their work over the previous year. One of these two, Hampden, at Springfield, had its field of operations curtailed within the year by the organization of a new Lodge, under Dispensation, in that city, that covers part of the ground formerly occupied by it. From a careful inquiry and examination I cannot but believe

that, generally, a careful scrutiny has been exercised in the admission of members, and yet I feel that we are in very great danger of erring, if we do not already err, in not being sufficiently careful and guarded in the recommendation of candidates for the Degrees.

The new Lodge under Dispensation at Springfield, alluded to above, (Roswell Lodge) I have not visited. The location being fifty miles from my place of residence, and the regular communications being held on Saturday evening, I could not visit them on those evenings without compelling my absence over the Sabbath, at considerable expense. When making my official visits to the Lodges in that vicinity, I invited the Worshipful Master of the Lodge to call an extra meeting; but the time proposed was not convenient for them. Subsequently in a letter to the Master, a few days since, I named another time when I could meet them, but at the present writing I have received no reply. I hear, however, from members of the new Lodge, and others, that a considerable amount of work has been done, and that it is done with great accuracy. I presume the number initiated in the Lodge, added to those in Hampden, would make the number made in the city equal to what it was the previous year.*

A Dispensation was granted by you during the summer for a new Lodge at Huntingdon. Considerable delay was occasioned by the Dispensation having, by mistake, been mis-sent, and when last I heard the Lodge had not got in working condition.

Applications for Dispensations to confer degrees without waiting the usual time, have continued to be made, though not in such number as during the preceding year. Where good reasons appeared therefor, I have granted them; but have refused any for receiving, or acting upon, petitions out of the usual time or course, referring them to you.

Permit me to suggest, that as your personal visitation of many of the Lodges in different parts of the State, has been conducive of so much good; so, I am sure, could you find it convenient to visit all the Lodges in this District, much good would result therefrom; new interest and zeal would doubtless be incited; the Brethren would be encouraged, and, I can assure you, you would be received by warm fraternal hearts and open arms.

Allow me, as we verge upon the close of the second year of your Grand Mastership, to congratulate you upon the universal harmony

*Since writing the above I have visited this Lodge, on the evening of Dec. 12, when I saw a part of its officers work in the first Degree, very satisfactorily. Up to that time they had initiated thirty-one candidates.

prevailing, and the satisfaction which everywhere exists within the jurisdiction, at the administration of the affairs thereof. During the year, our beautiful house has been burned by fire; but you have been permitted to lay the *corner-stone* of a new one, under the most favorable auspices, and may you be permitted to see it successfully reared to the *cap-stone*, and in the completion and perfection of its beautiful design—"the glory of this latter house shall be greater than that of the former."

In closing my Report, I desire to tender you my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me by this appointment, and to express my gratitude to those Masonic Brethren who have accompanied me in many of my official visits, and aided me in the discharge of my duties on these occasions. While I trust these visits have not been without some marked advantages to the Lodges themselves, in inciting a renewed interest, stimulating them to the exercise of greater care and more precision in the work, and encouraging them, as I hope, to more zeal and activity in the discharge of their Masonic duties, they have been to me a source both of pleasure and instruction.

With great respect and esteem, yours fraternally,

HENRY CHICKERING, *D. D. G. M. 9th District.*

TENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WM. PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of the State of Massachusetts,—

I have the pleasure to Report to you that all the Lodges in the Tenth District have maintained the grand standard during the past year, and have made considerable progress in the improvement of their work. I have transmitted to our Grand Treasurer Returns from all the Lodges of the District with their dues.

Owing to the state of my health I regret to say I have found it impossible to give as much attention to the Lodges in the District as could be desired; but all of them are in a prosperous condition. And now at the close of this my third year of service, thanking you for the honor conferred upon me, and for your uniform kindness and assistance while holding this responsible position, I beg leave to decline a reappointment.

I am, Fraternally, your obedient servant,

EDWARD P. GRAVES, *D. D. G. M. 10th Dist.*

Greenfield, Dec. 10, 1864.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

M. W. WM. PARKMAN, Esq., *Grand Master, &c. &c.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER—"Tempus fugit," and forcibly reminds me that the day of probation is fast drawing to a close, also the year for which you appointed me to the stewardship of the Eleventh Masonic District, within your jurisdiction.

I have visited all the Lodges in the District once—some of them twice during the year.

The following statement of the number of members and initiates of the several Lodges will give you a pretty correct idea of their present condition:—

Lodges.	Location.	No. Members.	No. Initiates.
Henry Price,	Charlestown,	93	30
Putnam,	East Cambridge,	66	15
Star of Bethlehem,	Chelsea,	147	22
John Abbot,	Somerville,	115	18
Mount Vernon,	Malden,	93	8
King Solomon's,	Charlestown,	175	54
Wyoming,	Melrose,	106	27
Hiram,	West Cambridge,	94	18
Mount Horeb,	Woburn,	63	11
Mount Hermon,	Medford,	96	20
Total,		1048	223

Where there is so much to commend it is hardly worth while to particularize. In all the Lodges a very great interest is manifested, and a laudable emulation exists as to "who best can work and best agree."

The specimens of work exhibited were, in most of the Lodges, of the highest character; I think, in some of them, it has never been excelled.

In some of the Lodges, I find a large proportion of the candidates offered, have been rejected; in others, no rejections have taken place during the year. In one Lodge, thirty-one candidates were offered, and but one rejected.

The practice of the members of the different Lodges in this jurisdiction, in preparing candidates for the honors of Masonry, is indeed very various: and while some evidently consider that, "all is grist that comes to our mill," trusting almost entirely to the ballot box to divide the wheat from the tares, others observe the more conserva-

tive, prudent course, of plucking up the wheat only, leaving all the tares to grow until some Institution,—not the Masonic,—shall weed them. These different practices are by no means confined to the Eleventh Masonic District, or to Massachusetts, but find their imitators throughout the world; and I have been most forcibly impressed that, in this difference, may be found much of the difference so plainly discernable in the character and standing of the various Lodges. We do not always see from the same stand-point, or from the same stand-point see the same things. From my view, I cannot help observing that, in Lodges where there are fewest rejections, you will find the highest order of character; and if all our Brethren would resolve, and always act upon the good resolution, never to propose any man for the degrees of Masonry that he does not know, from a long and intimate acquaintance, to be in every respect worthy, the present character of the Institution, high and noble as it is, would at once ascend to a higher plane, intellectually, socially, and morally.

In concluding this Report, permit me say, that all the Lodges in the Eleventh District are in a flourishing condition. The officers are well instructed in their duties, and take great pains to perform them agreeably to the ancient customs of the Order. The membership is composed of the best material, and great interest taken to make the Lodges worthy of the Institution,—all working harmoniously for the best interests of all concerned. The work is all that can be desired, being that authorized by the Grand Lodge—Grand Lecturers are not needed in this District.

Finally, accept my thanks for the distinguished honor you conferred upon me, in the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master of the Eleventh Masonic District, for the past year. The labors of the station have been made light, and its duties pleasant. My intercourse with the Brethren of this part of your jurisdiction, has indeed been most agreeable, and I shall ever remember with much pleasure, this portion of my Masonic career.

Fraternally yours,

SOLON THORNTON,

D. D. G. M. 11th Masonic District.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., *M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts*—

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER—I have the honor to submit the following Report of my official proceedings as District Deputy Grand Master, the past year.

Beyond my regular annual visitations to the several Lodges in my District, I have been called upon to perform no official act, except the occasional granting of Dispensations for the conferring of degrees out of course. These Dispensations, when applied for, have been readily granted by me, being myself fully satisfied that in no instance has the Master of any Lodge made the application without good and sufficient cause.

The following *table*, showing the name and location of the Lodges comprising the Twelfth District, the date of my annual visitation, the number of contributing members of each, number of applicants for the degrees, number of initiations, and number of rejections in each Lodge, will give you in a condensed form, a general idea of the standing of the several Lodges under my immediate charge, and will enable you better to judge of their condition and workings the past year, than any more elaborate Report or comment of my own.

TABLE.

NAME OF LODGE.	Location.	Date of Visitation.	No. Members.	Applications for Degrees.	Initiates.	Rejections.
Aberdour,	Boston,	Oct. 13,	47	18	17	1
Amicable,	Cambridge,	Nov. 17,	158	43	34	9
Columbian,	Boston,	Nov. 28,	285	48	45	3
Dalhousie,	Newton,	Nov. 9,	85	30	21	9
Gate of Temple,	South Boston,	Nov. 3,	100	38	30	8
Germania,	Boston,	Oct. 24,	56	15	13	2
Joseph Warren,	Boston,	Oct. 25,	153	54	40	14
Massachusetts,	Boston,	Nov. 21,	174	92	75	17
Mount Olivet,	Cambridge,	Nov. 17,	48	19	18	1
St. Paul's,	South Boston,	Nov. 18,	163	71	60	11
Union,	Dorchester,	Nov. 15,	96	18	17	1
Washington,	Roxbury,	Oct. 26,	156	43	35	8
			1521	489	405	84

From the above figures you will perceive that an unusual amount of work has been performed during the year by most of the Lodges in the District, and that all of them are in a healthy and prosperous condition; and I have the greatest pleasure in assuring you that not only are they in a healthy and prosperous state, but that the utmost harmony and good feeling prevails among the Brotherhood, and a deep interest seems to be felt by all, for the honor and success of our Order. There appears to have been a good average attendance at Lodge meetings during the year, and the officers of all the Lodges have entered into the work with the utmost spirit and alacrity—although the amount of labor performed by some of them has been exceedingly arduous, and drawn very largely upon their time and powers of endurance.

In every instance of my official visitation, with a single exception, I have witnessed the specimens of the work of the visited Lodge, and while I do not think it proper in this connection to mention the name of any particular Lodge as worthy of especial commendation, where all work so well,—I cannot refrain from the remark that there is one Lodge in the Twelfth District whose work seemed to me to be of a very superior character. The beauty and moral effect of a Masonic degree, depends in a great measure upon the manner and bearing—not only in the officers engaged in conferring it, but upon every member present—and the Lodge alluded to, by its strict attention to the most minute detail of the business in hand, won my admiration, and exhibited specimens of work that I have never seen surpassed. I mention this, not for the purpose of compliment, but to express the hope that all our Lodges will endeavor to emulate each other in a strict attention to these matter of detail in the conferring of degrees, so that the members themselves who may be present, as well as the candidate, may be enabled to receive and enjoy the full force and benefit of the instruction they are intended to impart.

I deem it a part of my official duty to Report to you, that the disastrous fire which in the early part of the year laid our cherished Masonic Hall in ruins—destroyed much valuable property belonging to those Lodges in my District that were accustomed to assemble in that hall, viz:—Massachusetts, Columbian, Joseph Warren, Aberdour and Germania. Among the property thus destroyed were the Charters of all the Lodges named, except that of the Columbian, one of the oldest Lodges in the State, which was fortunately preserved. Of the Lodges thus deprived of their Charters, the Germania only had received a new one at the time of my annual visitation. But being informed

by the Masters of the other Lodges, that duplicates or fac-similes of their respective Charters were already in the course of preparation, but had been delayed by the difficulty of procuring the necessary signatures, and having myself personally examined the several originals on a former occasion, I did not hesitate, under the circumstances, to proceed in my official examination without requiring the production of the written authority under which those Lodges claim to work.

It is with much pleasure that I thus publicly acknowledge my indebtedness to the several distinguished Brethren who kindly attended me on my official visits, and materially aided me in the discharge of my official duties. These visitations have been exceedingly pleasant to me, and I trust have been productive of good to the several Lodges, and I close my Report, Most Worshipful Grand Master, by most sincerely congratulating you, as well as the Grand Lodge, upon the unparalleled prosperity now enjoyed by the Fraternity throughout your entire jurisdiction.

I remain, my dear sir, fraternally and very truly yours,

N. A. THOMPSON,

D. D. G. M., 12th Masonic District.

ARMY LODGE NO. THREE.

Chelsea, Mass., Jan.. 4, 1865.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, M. W. G. M. of M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts—

In the month of September, 1861, a Dispensation was granted by the M. W. Grand Master Coolidge, to Bros. J. F. Fellows, W. H. W. Hinds, J. A. Greele and others, to form and open an Army Lodge, under the name of "United Brethren Army Lodge, No. 3;" and the said Dispensation has been renewed to September, 1864. Yearly Reports were made until September, 1863; since which time no work has been done by the Lodge.

A communication of the Lodge was called for Wednesday evening, Feb. 8d, 1864, for the purpose of conferring the degrees upon several candidates who had been proposed; but on the 1st day of the same month I was taken prisoner of war, and as the Senior and Junior Wardens had been previously transferred, by promotion, to other regiments, no communication was held.

The Secretary, who had charge of the funds of the Lodge, was also taken prisoner, and has since died at Charleston, S. C. His effects

were sent to his wife at Baltimore; and although I have sent for the Records of the Lodge, I have not yet received them.

I found my papers, on my return home, very much disarranged, and several of them lost; and I regret to report that, after a most diligent search, I am unable to find the Dispensation for the Lodge, and fear that it is lost with other papers of value.

As it is probable that I may leave for the army in a few days, I send you this Report; and, if successful in recovering the Dispensation and Records, will make a supplementary Report as soon as possible.

Fraternally your obedient servant,

J. F. FELLOWS,

W. M. United Brethren Army Lodge, No. 3.

ARMY LODGE NO. EIGHT.

Near Petersburg, Va., Dec. 20, 1864.

BROTHER PARKMAN—As Senior Warden of Army Lodge No. 8, 39th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, it becomes my duty to render an account of the proceedings of our Lodge for the past years, as near as my memory will serve me.

I should have rendered this account at the proper time, had I been able to procure the Secretary's books and papers, as he was captured on the 18th of August last, in the fight on the Weldon Railroad, by the enemy, and immediately after that time the baggage of all captured officers was sent to Washington to be stored, and have been unable to find out by writing, to which store-house the Secretary's valise, containing the Lodge papers, has been sent, as I was anxious to procure them before making our yearly Report.

As it was impossible to hold any meetings during the fall of last year, owing to the movements of the army, and having no suitable place to meet in, it was not till December, 1863, we held our first regular communication; and also held them in January, February, March and April, 1864; and besides these we had about twelve special communications,—our meetings occurring as often as once a week, after the 1st of January, 1864. We held no more communications after April, as the army moved early in May, and have been on the move frequently, and so situated, that ever since, it has been impracticable to hold our communications.

During the months of January, February, March and April, we in-

initiated thirty candidates, if my memory serves me correctly, and we rejected one application to receive the degrees.

During the summer campaign we lost many of the officers of our Lodge. The Worshipful Master, Senior Deacon, and Junior Steward were killed, and the Treasurer and Secretary taken prisoners.

All the members now connected with the Lodge earnestly request a renewal of the Dispensation until the 1st of September next, at which time our term of service expires.

I have the honor to be fraternally yours, &c.,

HENRY B. LEIGHTON, *Q. M. Sergeant 39th Mass. Vol.,
and S. W. Army Lodge No. 8.*

Camp of 39th Mass. Vols., near Petersburg Va., Jan. 15, 1865.

WILLIAM PARKMAN, *Grand Master*—DEAR SIR—Agreeably to your request, desiring a list of the names of candidates, and dates of initiations; I send herewith such a list of names, and the date of conferring each degree; this I was able to do very readily, as, since making out the last Report, I have procured the Lodge Records, and I find that we conferred the degrees on thirty-nine candidates, instead of thirty, as I stated in my Report.

Accept my thanks, as well as those of the Lodge, for once more renewing our Dispensation, and trusting to be able to promote the tenets of our Institution in the army.

I remain yours, truly,

HENRY B. LEIGHTON.

Quartermaster Sergeant, 39th Mass. Vols.

LIST OF LODGES

Under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, according to Districts :—

First District.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX, Boston.

St. John's, Boston, (1733.)	Winslow Lewis, Boston, (1856.)
St. Andrew's, Boston, (1756.)	Revere, Boston, (1857.)
Mount Lebanon, Boston, (1801.)	Pequosette, Watertown, (1857.)
Bethesda, Brighton, (1819.)	Hammatt, East Boston, (1860.)
Monitor, Waltham, (1820.)	Belmont, Belmont, (1865.)
Mount Tabor, East Boston, (1846.)	Parkman, Winchester, U. D.
Baalbec, East Boston, (1853.)	

Second District.

R. W. WILLIAM SUTTON, Salem.

Philanthropic, Marblehead, (1760.)	Warren, Amesbury, (1822.)
St. John's, Newburyport, (1766.)	Liberty, Beverly, (1824.)
Tyrian, Gloucester, (1770.)	Ashler, Rockport, (1832.)
Essex, Salem, (1779.)	Amity, Danvers, (1864.)
St. Mark's, Newburyport, (1803.)	Star King, Salem, (1864.)
Mount Carmel, Lynn, (1805.)	John T. Heard, Ipswich, U. D.
Jordan, South Danvers, (1806.)	Golden Fleece, Lynn, U. D.

Third District.

R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON, Lowell.

St. Paul's, Groton, (1797.)	Ancient York, Lowell, (1853.)
Corinthian, Concord, (1797.)	Caleb Butler, South Groton.
Aurora, Fitchburg, (1801.)	Wilder, Leominster, (1860.)
Merrimac, Haverhill, (1802.)	John Hancock, Methuen, (1861.)
Pentucket, Lowell, (1807.)	Tuscan, Lawrence, (1863.)
St. Matthew's, Andover, (1822.)	Hope, Gardner, (1864.)
Grecian, Lawrence, (1825.)	Sagadahew, Haverhill, U. D.

Fourth District.

R. W. H. C. SKINNER, Milford.

Blackstone River, Blackstone, (1856.)	Olive Branch, Sutton, (1794.)
Webster, Webster, (1858.)	Solomon's Temple, Uxbridge, (1818.)
Oxford, Oxford, (1860.)	Franklin, Grafton, (1852.)
John Warren, Hopkinton, (1861.)	Mount Hollis, Holliston, U. D.
Montgomery, Milford, (1797.)	

Fifth District.**R. W. J. P. LOVELL, East Weymouth.**

Old Colony, Hingham, (1792.)	Plymouth, Plymouth, (1825.)
Rising Star, Stoughton, (1799.)	Paul Revere, North Bridgewater, (1857.)
Corner Stone, Duxbury, (1801.)	John Cutler, Abington, (1860.)
Rural, Quincy, (1801.)	Orient, So. Dedham, (1862.)
Norfolk Union, Randolph, (1819.)	Blue Hill, Canton, (1864.)
Orphans' Hope, Weymouth, (1825.)	

Sixth District.**R. W. Rev. J. W. DADMUN, Worcester.**

Morning Star, Worcester, (1793)	United Brethren, Marlboro', (1859.)
Middlesex, Framingham, (1795)	Quinebang, Southbridge, (1859.)
Meridian, Natick, (1797.)	Eden, Ware, (1864.)
Mount Zion, Barre, (1800.)	Doric, Feltonville, (1864.)
Trinity, Clinton, (1858.)	Hayden, Brookfield, (1864.)
Quabog, Warren, (1859.)	North Star, Ashland, U. D.
Montacute, Worcester, (1859.)	

Seventh District.**R. W. L. W. LOVELL, Bridgewater.**

Fellowship, Bridgewater, (1797.)	Mount Hope, Fall River, (1824.)
Bristol, Attleboro', (1797.)	Eureka, New Bedford, (1858.)
King David, Taunton, (1798.)	Pythagoras, Marion, (1863.)
St. Alban's, Foxboro', (1818.)	Pioneer, Somerset, (1864.)
Star in the East, N. Bedford, (1823.)	Mayflower, Middleboro', (1864.)
Social Harmony, Wareham, (1823.)	St. James, Mansfield, (1864.)

Eighth District.**R. W. Rev. R. S. POPE, Hyannis.**

King Hiram, Provincetown, (1795.)	Mt. Horeb, West Harwich, (1855.)
Marine, Falmouth, (1798.)	De Witt Clinton, Sandwich, (1856.)
Fraternal, Hyannis, (1801.)	Pilgrim, South Harwich, (1859.)
Union, Nantucket, (1771.)	Martha's Vineyard, Tisbury, (1860.)

Ninth District.**R. W. HENRY CHICKERING, Pittsfield.**

Cincinnatus, G. Barrington, (1795.)	Mount Moriah, Westfield, (1856.)
Evening Star, Lee, (1795.)	Berkshire, Adams, South, (1858.)
Lafayette, Adams, (North,) (1796)	Day Spring, Monson, (1863.)
Thomas, Palmer, (1796)	Roswell Lee, Springfield, (1864.)
Wisdom, West Stockbridge, (1803.)	The United Lodge, Huntingdon, U. D.
Mystic, Pittsfield, (1810.)	
Hampden, Springfield, (1817.)	

Tenth District.**R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, Northampton.**

Republican, Greenfield, (1794.)	Chicopee, Chicopee, (1849.)
Harmony, Northfield, (1796.)	Mount Tom, Holyoke, (1850.)
Jerusalem, Northampton, (1797.)	Orange, Orange, 1860.)
Mountain, Shelburne Falls, (1806.)	Pacific, Amherst, ()
Bethel, Enfield, (1825.)	Star, Athol, U. D

Eleventh District.**R. W. WILLIAM E. PARMENTER, West Cambridge.**

King Solomon, Charlestown, (1783.)	Mount Horeb, Woburn, (1856.)
Hiram, West Cambridge, (1797.)	Wyoming, Melrose, (1857.)
Star of Bethlehem, Chelsea, (1844.)	Mount Vernon, Malden, (1858.)
Putnam, East Cambridge, (1855.)	John Abbot, Somerville, (1858.)
Mount Hermon, Medford, (1855.)	Henry Price, Charlestown, (1859.)

Twelfth District.**R. W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON, Boston.**

Massachusetts, Boston, (1770.)	Germania, Boston, (1855.)
Columbian, Boston, (1796.)	Gate of Temple, S. Boston, (1856.)
Washington, Roxbury, (1796.)	Joseph Warren, Boston, (1857.)
Union, Dorchester, (1796.)	Aberdour, Boston, (1862.)
Amicable, Cambridge, (1805)	Dalhousie, Newton, (1861.)
St. Paul's, South Boston, (1847.)	Mt. Olivet, Old Cambridge, (1864.)

GEORGE H. KENDALL, Deputy for Chili, South America.

Bethesda, Valparaiso, S. A., (1854.)	Hiram of Copiapo, Copiapo, Chili, S. A., (1855.)
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IN CHINA.—"Ancient Landmark of Hong Que," Shanghai, (1864.)**ARMY LODGES.**

Bay State Army Lodge,	No. 1, 3d Regt.
Massachusetts Army Lodge,	No. 2, 16th "
United Brethren " "	No. 3, 17th "
Fraternal " "	No. 4, 25th "
Bunker Hill " "	No. 5, 2d "
Berkshire Camp " "	No. 7, 48th "
Putnam " "	No. 8, 30th "
Olive Branch " "	No. 9, 42d "
Warren " "	No. 10, 32d "

G. SECRETARY'S ADDRESS:**CHAS. W. MOORE, Freemasons' Hall, 10 Summer
street, Boston, Mass.**

PERMANENT MEMBERS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.

5845. Simon W. Robinson.	5857. John T. Heard, Esq.
5851. Rev. George M. Randall.	5861. Wm. D. Coolidge, Esq.
5854. Winslow Lewis, M. D.	5863. William Parkman, Esq.

PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

5832. Abraham A. Dame, Esq.	5859. Hon. Charles R. Train.
5837. George G. Smith, Esq.	5860. Hon. J. V. C. Smith, M. D.
5844. Rev. E. M. P. Wells.	5861. Hon. George W. Warren.
5851. Lucius B. Paige, Esq.	5862. Hon. Marshall P. Wilder.
5854. Abraham T. Low, M. D.	5863. Charles C. Dame, Esq.

PAST SENIOR GRAND WARDENS.

5840. Hon. Thomas Tolman.	5859. Lorenzo H. Gamwell, Esq.
5844. Robert Keith, Esq.	5860. Joel Spalding, M. D.
5853. Daniel Harwood, M. D.	5861. William North, Esq.
5854. Richard S. Spofford, M. D.	5862. Henry Chickering, Esq.
5855. Hon. Wm. C. Plunkett.	5863. William W. Baker, Esq.
5857. Bradford L. Wales, M. D.	5864. William S. Gardner, Esq.
5858. Henry Goddard, Esq.	

PAST JUNIOR GRAND WARDENS.

5843. Thomas Powers, Esq.	5857. John H. Sheppard, Esq.
5844. John Hews, Esq.	5858. Isaac Hull Wright, Esq.
5851. William Eaton, Esq.	5859. Charles Robbins, Esq.
5852. John Flint, M. D.	5862. Peter C. Jones, Esq.
5854. Jonas A. Marshall, M. D.	5863. Daniel Reynolds, Esq.
5855. Sam'l K. Hutchinson, Esq.	5864. Benjamin Dean, Esq.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

OF THE

Freemasons -

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, -

IN UNION WITH THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN
EUROPE AND AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS.

From March 8 to December 27, 1865;

BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

M.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, GRAND MASTER.

Ordered to be Read in all the Lodges.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

1866.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

OF

EXPULSIONS.

AT the Quarterly Communication of the M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS, held at Freemasons' Hall in Boston, March 14, 1866, the *Expulsion from all the rights and privileges of Masonry* of SAMUEL E. CHADWICK, by Mount Moriah Lodge of Westfield, and of JEREMIAH D. WELLS, by Jerusalem Lodge of Northampton, was approved and confirmed by said Grand Lodge.

Attest,

CHAS. W. MOORE,
Grand Secretary.

BOSTON, March 15, 1866.

BOSTON:
PRESS OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.
1866.

EVERY DAY ACCEPTED MASON

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN SENATE, JANUARY 18, 1880.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE LANDS AND MINES, FOR THE YEAR 1879.

ALSO, WILLIAM L. LORAN, CHIEF CLERK.

PRINTED BY THE STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

OF THE

Freemasons—
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. —

IN UNION WITH THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN
EUROPE AND AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS.

From March 8 to December 27, 1865;

BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

M.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, GRAND MASTER.

Ordered to be Read in all the Lodges.

BOSTON:
PRESS OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.
1866.

1870, April 1.
Gift of
Wm. S. Gardner,
of Boston.

Abstract of Proceedings
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

MARCH 8, A. L. 5865.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, on Wednesday, March 8, A. L. 5865.

Present.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES C. DAME	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES R. TRAIN	Senior Grand Warden <i>pro tem</i> .
R. W. SOLON THORNTON	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R. W. C. LEVI WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. WILLIAM S. STUDLEY	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN } W. LOVELL BICKNELL } W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP }	Grand Stewards.
W. F. J. FOSS	Grand Pursuivant.
W. E. D. BANCROFT } W. J. K. HAYWARD }	Grand Lecturers.
Bro. H. G. BARROWS	Grand Organist.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R. W. WILLIAM SUTTON	District No. 2.
R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	District No. 3.
R. W. H. C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
R. W. J. P. LOVELL	District No. 5.
R. W. J. W. DADMUN	District No. 6.
R. W. L. W. LOVELL	District No. 7.
R. W. R. S. POPE	District No. 8.
R. W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R. W. WILLIAM E. PARMENTER	District No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at a quarter past 2 o'clock, P.M. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

W. Bro. Robert B. Hall was recognized as Proxy for Plymouth Lodge, and Bro. John H. Marcey for Quinebaug Lodge.

The Secretary announced that he had upon his table, petitions for Charters for *seven* Lodges, which were presented and referred as follows :—

For Starr King Lodge, Salem, to Brothers Coolidge, Stearns, and Lotts ; Ancient Landmark, Shanghai, China, to Bros. Gardner, Muzzey, and Shattuck ; St. James, Mansfield, to Bros. Emmons, Thornton, and Chamberlain ; Belmont, Belmont, to Bros. Winship, Smith, and Davis ; Hope, Gardner, to Bros. Warren, Oliver, and Foss ; Roswell Lee, Springfield, to Bros. Chickering, Smith, and Salmon ; May Flower, Middleboro, to Bros. Lewis, Sutton, and Perkins.

The foregoing Committees subsequently offered the following reports, which were adopted, viz :—

STARR KING LODGE.

The Committee appointed on the application of Starr King Lodge of Salem, for a Charter, have examined the records of the same during their Dispensation, and the by-laws submitted by them ; they find them correct, and recommend that a Charter be issued to the parties named in the application.

For the Committee.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE, *Chairman*.

BOSTON, March 8, 1865.

ROSWELL LEE LODGE.

To the M. W. Grand Master and Members of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Your Committee to whom was referred the application for a Charter of Roswell Lee Lodge, which for the last year has been working under Dispensation at Springfield, respectfully report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and have examined their by-laws and records. The former they find are in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge Constitutions, and the latter accurately and beautifully kept, a model in all respects. All dues to the Grand Lodge have been paid, and its requirements complied with, and they recommend that a Charter be issued to them.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY CHICKERING.
WILLIAM F. SALMON.
CHARLES E. SMITH.

Boston, March 8, 1865.

ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS, March 8, A.L. 5865.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of sundry brethren at Shanghai, China, for a Charter, together with the dispensation, by-laws, records, and accompanying documents, respectfully report —

That the M. W. Grand Master, on the 14th day of December, 1863, was pleased to grant a Dispensation to certain American brethren residing in this distant part of the world, empowering them to form and open a Lodge at Shanghai, by the name of Ancient Landmark Lodge; that upon its arrival the brethren named therein met on the ninth of May, A.D. 5864, formed themselves into a regular Lodge of Masons, and continued to meet from time to time until the fourth of December last, when they transmitted a full account of their doings to the M. W. Grand Master, by which it appears that they have had thirty-five meetings, fifty-seven applications, of which three were rejected and forty-six accepted. They have initiated forty-three as Entered Apprentices, passed thirty-four as Fellow Crafts, and raised twenty-seven Masters.

The returns are made with great care, and the records have been kept with discretion, minuteness, and good taste. The by-laws are strictly in conformity with our constitutional requirements. The dues to the Grand Lodge have been paid in full.

Brother Charles E. Hill (appointed W. Master under the Dispensation) has written a very interesting communication to the M. W. Grand Master, from which your Committee take the following extracts : —

“ Since I accepted the position of Master I have devoted a portion of every day to the work, and have fully posted all the officers and brothers who would come to me for it. And I can say with pride and much pleasure, that I never saw so many Masons in one family, who were so well acquainted with work. None have been allowed to advance until thorough in the preceding degree. My interpretation of a *suitable proficiency*, is an ability to answer any and all questions any brother may ask, giving the ——— in full, and explaining minutely every portion of the ceremony, giving the reasons as explained in the E. A. lecture, and also the middle-chamber work in the F. C. The result is, that of twenty-seven raised, twenty can confer the E. A. and F. C. in full, and all can fill any office in the Lodge, save Master, in any of the degrees they have received.

“ That there may be no excuse, I am always ready to give instruction, and when there is more than I can do, I appoint some brother whose duty it is to see that the brother I send to him comes prepared to pass a rigid examination. As a failure to pass is then clearly the fault of the brother appointed to instruct, we have not yet had the mortification of rejecting a single application for advancement. . . .

“ I am extremely gratified to say that all has gone smoothly and in peace and harmony, and that we have the respect and good will of the English Lodges, and of all Masons. At our regular communication November 1, we were visited by Right W. Provincial Grand Master Mercer, P. P. G. M. Rawson, P. G. Secretary Mercer, and by several Past Masters. The Grand Master requested to see our Masters' Work, and Brother Pitman, living near by, was sent for and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The Grand Master having intimated that he had heard of the proficiency of the new initiates, I requested all the officers of the Lodge to vacate their places for the occasion, and filled them entire with new brothers, when the work was done without a single mistake. After the work was completed, the Grand Master expressed to the Lodge his entire satisfaction, and great pleasure, and remarked that he never saw it done better. Before leaving Shanghai he visited the three Lodges under his jurisdiction, and called their attention to the proficiency of the American Lodge, recommended the officers and members to often visit us, and ordered them to adopt our course, as to the examination of applicants for advancement.”

Your Committee feel that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts can look with pleasure and pride upon this their offspring beyond the seas. This ancient Grand Lodge, true to her traditions, has ever been zealous in disseminating Masonic light to those residing in darkness, and is now performing a duty which it early learned, and has never ceased to practice, of sending to distant lands her messengers of peace. In her humble way she obeys the divine injunction, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Your Committee cheerfully recommend that a Charter be granted the petitioners by the name of Ancient Landmark Lodge.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.
H. W. MUZZEY.
DAVID S. SHATTUCK.

HOPE LODGE.

Boston, March 8, 1865.

To the M. W. Grand Master and Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Mount Hope Lodge of Gardner, Mass., for a Charter, empowering them to work, have attended to this duty and beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the records of Mount Hope Lodge and find them to have been correctly and properly kept, while said Lodge has been acting under Dispensation.

That they have also examined the by-laws of Mount Hope Lodge and find them to be in accordance with the Laws and Constitutions of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

That the books of the Treasurer and Secretary have also been examined, and the payments found to be properly vouched, and the dues of the Lodge all paid.

And therefore your Committee cheerfully recommend that the prayer of said petition be granted, and a Charter issued to Mount Hope Lodge of Gardner, Mass.

For the Committee.

HENRY W. WARREN.

ST. JAMES LODGE.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of William G. Allen and others, for a Charter for a Lodge in Mansfield, under the name of St. James Lodge, respectfully report, that they have examined the records of their doings while under Dispensation and find them to be correctly kept. That they have also examined a copy of their by-laws and find them to conform to the requirements of the regulations of this Grand Lodge, and would therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

T. H. EMMONS.

SOLOM THORNTON.

THOMAS E. CHAMBERLAIN.

BELMONT LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, March 8, 1865.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Brother William B. Bothamly and others, to be chartered and constituted under the title of Belmont Lodge, would respectfully report, that having confidence in the Masonic integrity of the petitioners, and in the regularity of all the proceedings of the Lodge while working under Dispensation, the Committee recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

For the Committee.

F. LYMAN WINSHIP.

MAY FLOWER LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 8, 1865.

The Committee appointed to examine the by-laws and records of May Flower Lodge, respectfully report, that the former are strictly in conformity with the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, and that the latter are neatly and accurately engrossed, and, that the required fees are paid.

They therefore recommend that a Charter be granted, in conformity with the prayer of the petitioners.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

H. P. PERKINS.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

The Grand Master announced in appropriate and fitting terms, the death of the late R. W. Brother JOHN R. BRADFORD, a Past Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, and appointed R. W. Brothers Alger, Coolidge, and Sheppard, to prepare suitable resolutions commemorative of the event; and this Committee subsequently offered the following report which was adopted : —

Whereas it has pleased Divine Providence to remove from us by sudden death our highly esteemed late Brother JOHN R. BRADFORD, a past officer of this Grand Lodge, therefore —

Resolved, That we cannot part with our deceased Brother without some expression of our grateful attachment and respect for his person, and of our high estimate of his character, both as a Mason and as a man.

Resolved, That his long and unfaltering devotion to the principles and interests of our beloved Order — a devotion signalized for over half a century by a multitude of valuable services — call for our most thankful recognition.

Resolved, That his example is a model of firmness, industry, benevolence, temperance, purity, and energetic integrity, worthy of reverence and imitation on the part of all.

Resolved, That his memory is most dear to us, and that in the circumstances of his departure, taken directly from his tasks to his reward, without suffering or fear, we own the merciful hand of the heavenly Father, and feel that his family and friends are comforted in the assurance that they now have this precious additional treasure laid up in heaven.

The Grand Master also announced the decease of our aged and esteemed Brother BENJAMIN STEVENS, who, though never a member of this Grand Lodge, was for forty-eight years an active, adhering, and faithful brother.

On motion of the Grand Treasurer it was *Voted*, That the sum of five hundred dollars be placed in the hands of the Committee on Charity for charitable purposes.

There being no further business the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form, at 4 o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

JUNE 14, A.L. 5865.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, on Wednesday, June 14, A.L. 5865.

Present.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES C. DAME	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WENDELL T. DAVIS	Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. SOLON THORNTON	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Grand Secretary.
W. REV. WILLIAM S. STUDLEY	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN	Grand Stewards.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	
W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP	
W. F. J. FOSS	Grand Pursuivants.
W. HENRY L. DALTON	
W. E. D. BANCROFT	Grand Lecturers.
W. J. K. HAYWARD	

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R. W. WILLIAM SUTTON	District No. 2.
R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	District No. 3.
R. W. H. C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
R. W. J. P. LOVELL	District No. 5.
R. W. REV. J. W. DADMUN	District No. 6.
R. W. L. W. LOVELL	District No. 7.
R. W. REV. R. S. POPE	District No. 8.
R. W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
R. W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	District No. 12.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at half-past 2 o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Petitions were presented for Charters by the following

Lodges, all of which had been working the past year under Dispensations, to wit : —

John T. Heard, Ipswich ; referred to Bros. Andrew Smith, Amos Tapley, and Joshua Stearns.

William Parkman, Winchester ; referred to Bros. William S. Gardner, N. A. Thompson, and William W. Baker.

North Star, Ashland ; referred to Bros. Theodore H. Eimons, Edward Stearns, and Lucius R. Paige.

Star Lodge, Athol ; referred to Bros. John W. Dadmun, S. A. Stetson, and William Sutton.

The above Committees subsequently offered the following reports, which were adopted : —

JOHN T. HEARD LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, June 14, 1865.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of John T. Heard Lodge of Ipswich, have attended to their duty and report, that they have examined the records, returns, and by-laws of said Lodge, and find them to be correct and in conformity to the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee would recommend that their request be granted, and that they receive a Charter. All of which is respectfully submitted.

ANDREW G. SMITH.
E. DANA BANCROFT.
JOSIAH A. STEARNS.

WILLIAM PARKMAN LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, June 14, 1865.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Albion K. P. Joy and eleven others of Winchester, Mass., praying to be constituted into a Lodge by the name of William Parkman Lodge, respectfully report —

That these brethren have been working under the Grand Master's Dispensation the requisite time, and now return their Dispensation, records, and by-laws for approval.

Your Committee have examined with much interest the records of this Lodge during its existence. While the Secretary has perhaps not used the technical phraseology of the Craft (an error which will be readily corrected), he has, however, kept a beautiful, truthful, and exact record of the doings of the Lodge, in a manner which deserves special mention.

The by-laws submitted are approved with two exceptions.

Section 2d of Article II. provides that "the Master may appoint Senior and Junior Deacons, Marshal, Chaplain, Stewards, Organist, Inside Sentinel, and Tyler, *whom he may remove at pleasure.*" Although the Master of a Lodge has the appointing power, he has no authority to remove an installed officer, however inferior the rank of such officer may be. He may suspend such officer for good cause, and report his action to the M. W. Grand Master, but he cannot remove him from the position into which he has been solemnly installed, nor does there any where exist the power to remove him, capriciously and at pleasure. Your Committee therefore recommend that the words "*whom he may remove at pleasure,*" be stricken out.

In Article VII., Section 1, the by-laws provide that "Past Masters of the Lodge and members of other Lodges in good standing, who have been eminently serviceable to this Lodge in particular, or to the Institution generally, may by vote of the Lodge be admitted to honorary membership, *with the same privileges as other members,* but exempt from assessments."

Part Fifth, Section 13, of the Grand Constitutions, expressly provides that "no brother shall be a member of more than one Lodge." The effect of this clause in the by-laws is to abrogate this provision of the Constitutions, inasmuch as if brethren of other Lodges are admitted to honorary membership in this Lodge they become entitled to the same privileges as other members of the Lodge.

There are two kinds of honorary members, as usage has established in this jurisdiction: a member of a Lodge may be made an honorary member to exempt him from assessments; such an honorary member still retains all his privileges in the Lodge, and loses none of his rights: the brethren have simply relieved him from the duty of aiding in the support of the Lodge by pecuniary

means. This is *one* kind of honorary membership. The other is where a member of a Lodge is made an honorary member of another, he still retaining his active membership in a different Lodge from that in which he derives his honorary membership. By this act the member receives simply an empty reward. He cannot vote in the Lodge of which he is an honorary member, he cannot take part in its deliberations, nor be present at the trial of one of its members. He is entitled to none of its privileges and is in no sense a member of such a Lodge. Such honorary membership simply shows the high estimation in which the brother is held by the Lodge which constitutes him such a member. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that this section be changed in such manner as to avoid the difficulty which is now apparent.

This new Lodge has selected the name of William Parkman Lodge in honor of our M. W. Grand Master, as a tribute to his indefatigable labor, unwearied zeal, and heartfelt devotion to our beloved institution during his memorable term of office.

Your Committee express the hope that this new Lodge now commenced under such happy auspices, may endure for ages, in the high and honorable character of its members, to perpetuate the name of one whom the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has been proud to honor.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.
NEWELL A. THOMPSON.
WILLIAM W. BAKER.

NORTH STAR LODGE.

Boston, June 14, 1865.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of North Star Lodge, Ashland, Mass., for a Charter, have attended to the duty assigned them, and would respectfully report —

That they have examined the records presented, and find them to have been faithfully kept. The by-laws are in accordance with the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge, and need but little pruning of matters which they consider unnecessary, being embodied in the Grand Constitutions. They also find the fees due the Grand

Lodge have been paid, and would therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

T. H. EMMONS.
EDWARD STEARNS.
LUCIUS R. PAIGE.

STAR LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, June 14, 1865.

Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of Star Lodge for a Charter, respectfully report —

That on careful examination they find the records neatly and correctly kept, and the by-laws in conformity to the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge. Also that the returns are correctly made and the usual fee paid over as the law directs. They therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

J. W. DADMUN.
WILLIAM SUTTON.

Bro. David W. Crafts was recognized as proxy for Jerusalem Lodge.

A printed circular was received from the Grand Lodge of Missouri, proposing a Convention of all the Grand Lodges in the United States, to consider the present condition of the Fraternity, which was referred to the Grand Master, with full powers.

BETHEL LODGE vs. E. A. BASSETT.

A communication was received from Bethel Lodge, Enfield, and referred to Brothers Thornton, Thompson, and Wells, who offered the following report, which was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Boston, June 14, 1865.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Bethel Lodge, at Enfield, in the case of Eugene A. Bassett, an Entered Apprentice Mason, tried by said Lodge, have attended to that duty and respectfully submit the following report : —

That the Lodge found the accused guilty of the charge and passed the following vote, to wit:—"That Bro. E. A. Bassett be suspended during the pleasure of the Lodge, and one month's notice given to each member of the Lodge by letter when Bro. Bassett wishes to take the remaining degrees."

Your Committee have carefully examined the evidence which has been submitted in detail, and are unable to comprehend how it was possible for the Lodge to arrive at such a verdict. The testimony is much more in favor of the accused than against him, and had the Lodge acquitted him unanimously, the verdict would have been just. As it is, your Committee would recommend that the Lodge, if there are no other charges against Bro. Bassett, be directed to make void their proceedings in the case.

SOLON THORNTON.
N. A. THOMPSON.
BENJ. T. WELLS.

RURAL LODGE *vs.* JAMES E. TIRRELL.

The Committee to whom the papers in the case were referred, presented the following report which was adopted:—

IN GRAND LODGE, Boston, June 14, 1865.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Rural Lodge, Quincy, in the case of Bro. James E. Tirrell, suspended by said Lodge for violating his Masonic obligations as set forth in said proceedings, have attended to that duty and respectfully report that the proceedings in said case have been conducted agreeably to the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge and the usages of Masons, and they recommend that they be confirmed.

SOLON THORNTON.
N. A. THOMPSON.
B. T. WELLS.

MOUNTAIN LODGE *vs.* GORDON EDGERTON.

The papers in this case were presented and referred to Brothers Davis, Train, and Chickering, who subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted:—

The Committee to whom was referred the communication from Mountain Lodge, with a copy of the record of said Lodge, covering the proceedings which resulted in the expulsion of Bro. Gordon Edgerton from said Lodge and from the privileges of Freemasonry, respectfully report that they have examined the records of said Lodge, and that all the proceedings appear to have been regular and in due form. Your Committee therefore recommend that the expulsion of said Edgerton by Mountain Lodge be approved by this Grand Lodge.

W. T. DAVIS.

CHARLES R. TRAIN.

HENRY CHICKERING.

JUNE 14, 1865.

DALHOUSIE LODGE vs. HENRY T. McCLEARN.

The papers in this case were presented and referred to Brothers Randall, Sheppard, and G. W. Warren, who subsequently offered a verbal report confirming the action of the Lodge, which was adopted, and said McClearn was accordingly expelled from Masonry.

R. W. Bro. W. F. Salmon offered the following Amendments to the Constitutions, which were referred to Brothers Salmon, Baker, and Warren, to wit:—

That Part First, Article II., Section 1, be amended by striking out the 20th, 21st, and 22d lines, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:—

- “ 18. Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer.
- 19. Worshipful Grand Pursuivants.
- 20. Worshipful Grand Lecturers.
- 21. Brother Grand Organist.
- 23. Brother Grand Tyler.”

And by adding after the words Grand Lodge, in the last line but one of said Section, the words, “the Grand Organist and.”

Also that Part Third, Article VII., Section 1, clause 1, by striking out the 22d line, and inserting “Grand Standard Bearer, Banner,” and by inserting between the 23d and 24th lines the words “Grand Organist, Lyre.”

The Grand Master stated that he had received a petition from Gate of the Temple Lodge, at South Boston, asking permission to remove, temporarily, to the city proper. Deeming the matter wholly within the province of the Grand Master, and that such a removal would be contrary to the provisions of the Constitutions, he declined to comply with the wishes of the petitioners. He was however willing to submit the matter to the Grand Lodge, but that Body did not see fit to change or disturb his decision.

On motion of the Junior Grand Warden it was —

Voted, That the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars be placed in the hands of the Committee of Charity for charitable purposes.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed, in Ample Form, at 5 o'clock.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

SEPT. 13, A.L. 5865.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, on Wednesday, Sept. 14, A.L. 5865.

Present.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES C. DAME	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WENDELL S. DAVIS	Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. SOLON THORNTON	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Grand Secretary.
W. REV. WILLIAM S. STUDLEY	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Steward.
W. E. D. BANCROFT	Senior Grand Lecturer.
BRO. H. G. BARROWS	Grand Organist.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	District No. 3.
R. W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
R. W. JOHN P. LOVELL	District No. 5.
R. W. Rev. J. W. DADMUN	District No. 6.
R. W. L. W. LOVELL	District No. 7.
R. W. Rev. R. S. POPE	District No. 8.
R. W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at quarter-past 2 o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The M. W. Grand Master announced that the R. W. Bro. George M. Hillyer, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, was present in the ante-chamber, for the purpose of visiting the Grand Lodge, and appointed a Committee, consisting of Brothers Fox, Pope, Bancroft, Stearns, and Chickering, to wait upon and introduce him. He was accordingly introduced and received with the honors due to his Masonic position.

The Committee on the Constitutions offered the following report, which was adopted : —

FREEMASONS' HALL, Boston, Sept. 13, 1865.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Your Committee to whom was referred certain Amendments to the Constitutions, proposed at the last communication of this Grand Lodge, having attended to their duty, report :

We find upon examination that the only material change made by the proposed amendments, is in the appointment of an additional officer, to be amended the W. Grand Standard Bearer.

Presuming that this Grand Lodge will have, as it has heretofore had, a suitable Banner or Standard, we believe there should be a proper custodian, in the person of a Grand Standard Bearer.

Article VII., Section 3, provides for the *Jewel* of Grand Organist, but no provision is made for the *appointment* of such an

officer. The proposed amendment provides for the appointment of a Grand Organist, but does not by virtue of such an appointment give him a vote in Grand Lodge.

As there is no provision for *Jewels* for Grand Lecturers, an amendment seems necessary to that end.

We therefore recommend the adoption of the following Resolution, providing for the office of Grand Standard Bearer, and making such other changes in connection therewith, as are needed to make the Constitution consistent in its Sections, which provide for the appointment of and *Jewels* for Grand Officers.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM F. SALMON.

Resolved, That the Constitutions, as printed with the Proceedings for 1863, be amended as follows: in Part First, Article II., Section 1, by striking out the twentieth, twenty-first, and twenty-second lines, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:—

18. Worshipful Grand Standard Bearer.

19. Worshipful Grand Pursuivants.

20. Worshipful Grand Lecturers.

21. Brother Grand Organist.

22. Brother Grand Tyler.

And by *adding* after the words Grand Lodge, in the last line but one of the same Section, the words “the Grand Organist and.”

In Part Third, Article VII., Section 1, clause first, by striking out the twenty-second line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words “*Grand Standard Bearer, Banner.*”

And by inserting between the twenty-third and twenty-fourth lines the words —

“*Grand Lecturers, open Book upon Square and Compasses.*”

“*Grand Organist, Lyre.*”

Which resolution was passed, and the Constitutions amended in accordance therewith.

The following letter from a Committee of Bethesda Lodge, Valparaiso, was read and referred to Brothers Woodbury and Moore: —

VALPARAISO, July 31, A.L. 5865, A.D. 1865.

To the M. W. Grand Master of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

M. W. GRAND MASTER —

Although so far distant from your W. Grand Lodge, and consequently rendering the receipt of the present to appear somewhat tardy, the members of Bethesda Lodge of A. F. and A. M., under your jurisdiction, cannot refrain from expressing the deep and unfeigned regret with which the intelligence of the untimely and violent death of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, has been received amongst them. By a unanimous resolve of Bethesda Lodge, it was agreed that a letter should be addressed to you, M. W. Grand Master, as their most worthy representative, to convey not only to their brethren in Freemasonry, but to the inhabitants of the United States generally, the expression of their most sincere condolence and regret on the loss of so great and good a man as Abraham Lincoln, whose memory should ever be cherished by those who profess the principles of our ancient institution.

We, therefore, as the Committee appointed by the Lodge, have the honor to subscribe ourselves,

Yours respectfully and fraternally,

H. JENNKET BRUSCHEER, *P.M.*

EDWARD EDMONSON.

JAMES BURRELL, *P.M.*

A copy of the proceedings of Pentucket Lodge, in the case of Wright C. Lyford, were presented and referred to Brothers Fox, Perkins, and Stearns, who subsequently submitted the following report, which was adopted : —

Your Committee appointed to examine and report upon the proceedings of Pentucket Lodge, Lowell, at their special communication held July 6, A.L. 5865, for the trial of Wright C. Lyford, upon certain charges therein set forth, upon which he was by a unanimous vote found guilty and expelled from all the

rights and privileges of Masonry, beg leave to report, that they have examined the proceedings, find them to be regular, and recommend that the said proceedings be confirmed.

For the Committee,

JAMES A. FOX, *Chairman.*

The M. W. Grand Master announced the destruction by fire of the Hall of Day Spring Lodge, at Monson, and the loss of its Charter and Regalia, and suggested to the Grand Lodge the remission of its dues, and the presentation of a new Charter and Jewels, free of expense. Referred to the Board of Directors.

The Grand Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge the Charter and Master's Gavel of St. Mary's Lodge, of St. Mary's, Georgia, which had fallen into the hands of a loyal brother, while engaged in the service of his country on the coast of that State, and placed in the possession of Old Colony Lodge, of Hingham, for safe keeping. The following letter accompanied the Charter, and both were referred to the M. W. Grand Master to be forwarded as requested.

To the W. Master, Wardens, and Brethren of St. Mary's Lodge of A. F. and A. M., St. Mary's, Georgia.

OLD COLONY LODGE, of Hingham, Mass., Sends Greeting :—

Circumstances which cannot be better or more exactly described perhaps than as the "Fortunes of War," have strangely made us the keeper for some time past of the Charter and Master's Gavel of your Worshipful Lodge; and now that the channels of peaceful communication between the Northern and Southern sections of our country are open again at the close of an unhappy civil war, we desire to return the same to you, with every expression of fraternal interest and good will.

The brother, but newly initiated into the secret mysteries of our ancient and honored institution, from whose hands we received

them for safe keeping, and at whose request we became their depository until such time as we could properly restore them, remained with us but a few days, and is now absent beyond the reach of correspondence, as our letters fail to elicit an answer; therefore to state with any fullness of detail how the property of another, and so distant a Lodge, is rightfully in our possession is at this time impossible. Anxious at the earliest available moment to restore their own to the brethren of St. Mary's Lodge, and to transmit therewith our sentiment of undiminished friendship, as members of the mystic tie, suffice it to say, that an engineer of a Federal gun-boat, connected with the late blockading fleet on the Atlantic coast, on going ashore at the village of St. Mary's, at the close of a bombardment, we believe, found the place deserted by most of its white population, and on entering a building which had suffered from the guns of our ships, or had been broken into and rifled of its contents, found himself unexpectedly within the sacred precincts of a Masonic Lodge, and on the floor lay a roll of parchment, and a small mallet, which on examination he believed to be the Charter of the Lodge and the W. Master's gavel. To him who had but recently gained admission into the sublime arcana of our sacred brotherhood, they were of course objects of exceeding interest and value, and lest they should come to the eyes of the unworthy, or be utterly lost, he took them with him to his boat, whereupon being almost immediately ordered North, he improved the first opportunity to commit them to the strict charge of a sister Lodge, for the purpose, as already stated, of their ultimate restoration to the place from which they were taken.

Through the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts they will come to you, and when the parchment is again unrolled in your presence, or the venerable gavel in the Master's hand shall strike once more the opening or the closing of the Lodge, may the one read to you anew as a pledge of a tried but faithful friendship, and the other echo to you from a far Northern State, the pulsation of hearts not alienated from their Masonic brothers in the South.

The war so bitterly waged, now ended as we trust forevermore, has proved in many affecting ways, the majestic character

and regal worth of the great institution of Free and Accepted Masonry. It has hovered like God's Angel of Mercy over the bloody battle-field, — it has ministered its loving charities to the wounded and the dying, — it has relieved the suffering of the prisoners, — it has preserved the sacred ashes of the honored dead ; and when the soldier was struck down, it has discovered to him a friend and brother in the foe.

Its principles of liberality, brotherly love, and charity, have stood the fiery trial, and the obligations to which all swear fealty who bow the naked knee at the consecrated altar, have shown their binding force to be strong as links of steel.

And now that the strife is over, and the sword is returned to its scabbard, may we not expect that the same institution, co-extensive with the whole domain of our land, which has so mitigated the cruelties of war, shall also act no small part in the earnest and difficult work of a National " Reconstruction," of restoring to health and wholeness our dismembered country, of re-establishing in Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty, which Masons are taught to believe " are about God's throne as the pillars of his court," a union of States under one constituted head, whose archetype shall be the human frame, a living organism of related and co-operative parts, fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, edifying itself in love, — many members but one body.

It is at once the pride and the glory of our grand fraternity that it measures no man by this world's standard of high or low ; that it is above the littleness which makes blood or birth-place the test of moral or intellectual worth, and knows no difference of nation, as Greek or Roman, as Jew or Gentile, in the ministration of its rites, or the bestowments of its gifts. In this it resembles the wisdom and goodness of Deity, of Him, the Supreme Architect of the Universe, the initial of whose holy name is suspended in every duly appointed Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons from the canopy in the East, and we are sure that such an institution, so pure in spirit, so lofty in interest, with principles so noble and so grand, will materially and inevitably adopt the line of God's gracious providence, and welcome, though it come through tears and agony, every advancement of truth and

human happiness. So mote it be. Once more Brethren we salute you.

E. WATERS BURR, *W. M.*

C. N. MARSH, *Acting Senior Warden.*

BENJAMIN STUDLEY, *Acting Junior Warden.*

JOSHUA YOUNG,

ENOS LORING,

BELA WHITON,

Committee of Old Colony Lodge.

A true copy from the records of Old Colony Lodge.

Attest: C. W. S. SEYMOUR, *Secretary.*

SEPTEMBER 5, 1865.

On motion it was — .

Voted, That the sum of five hundred dollars be placed in the hands of the general Committee, and the further sum of two hundred and fifty dollars in the hands of the special Committee on Charity, for charitable purposes.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form, at 4 o'clock.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,

DEC. 13, A.L. 5865.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE was held at Freemasons' Hall, No. 10 Summer street, on Wednesday, December 13, A.L. 5865, at 2 o'clock, P.M.

Present.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES C. DAME	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WENDELL T. DAVIS	Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. SOLON THORNTON	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. REV. WILLIAM R. ALGER }	Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. WILLIAM S. STUDLEY }	

W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN }	Grand Stewards.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL }	
W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP }	Grand Pursuivants.
W. F. J. FOSS }	
W. HENRY L. DALTON }	Grand Lecturers.
W. E. D. BANCROFT }	
W. L. H. GAMWELL }	Grand Organist.
W. H. G. BARROWS	
W. WILLIAM H. KENT	Grand Chorister.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R. W. WILLIAM SUTTON	District No. 2.
R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	District No. 3.
R. W. H. C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
R. W. J. P. LOVELL	District No. 5.
R. W. Rev. J. W. DADMUN	District No. 6.
R. W. L. P. LOVELL	District No. 7.
R. W. Rev. R. S. POPE	District No. 8.
R. W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R. W. DANIEL W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
R. W. WILLIAM E. PARMENTER	District No. 11.
R. W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	District No. 12.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, with prayer by the Rev. William R. Alger, Grand Chaplain.

Proxies were presented and received as follows : —

Bro. Daniel W. Taft, for Blackstone River Lodge ; Bro. Geo. A. Kimball, for Republican Lodge ; Bro. Edward S. Bradford, for Rural Lodge ; Bro. Joseph F. Snow, for Mount Zion Lodge ; Bro. Q. W. Lovering, for Holyoke Lodge ; Bro. John F. Phelps, for Eden Lodge.

Eleusis Lodge, U.D., presented its returns, with a petition for a Charter, which were received and referred to Bros. Thornton, Oliver, and Mulliken, who subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted : —

ELEUSIS LODGE. ·

IN GRAND LODGE, December 13, 1865.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Eleusis Lodge for a Charter, have examined the by-laws and records of the Lodge, and find them consistent with the regulations and requirements of the Grand Lodge, and respectfully recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

SOLON THORNTON.
HENRY MULLIKEN.
SAMUEL P. OLIVER.

The returns and petition for a Charter from Saggaheew Lodge, U.D., were received and referred to Bros. Coolidge, William F. Davis, and Salmon, who offered the following report, which was adopted :—

SAGGAHEW LODGE.

The Committee to whom was referred the by-laws of Saggaheew Lodge of Haverhill, have carefully considered the same, and find the by-laws extremely voluminous ; they have suggested such amendments as in their judgment are required by the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge and conducive to the harmony and well being of the Lodge seeking a Charter from this body ; they therefore recommend that when this Lodge shall adopt such recommendations as your Committee propose, and the same shall meet the approval of the Grand Master, that a Charter issue to them, in accordance with their petition.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.
WILLIAM F. SALMON.
WILLIAM F. DAVIS.

The returns from Mount Hollis Lodge, U.D., were referred to Brothers Lovell, Pope, and Gamwell, who subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted :—

MOUNT HOLLIS LODGE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Committee to whom was referred the records and by-laws of Mount Hollis Lodge have attended to that duty and submit the following report :—

We would recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted when they shall furnish a code of by-laws which shall meet the approbation of the M. W. Grand Master ; the present code not being deemed satisfactory by the Committee, many things being incorporated in the by-laws which are unnecessary, and some being unconstitutional and generally too difficult.

L. W. LOVELL.

R. S. POPE.

L. H. GAMWELL.

The returns from Golden Fleece Lodge, U.D., were also received and referred to Brothers Coolidge, Chickering, and Sutton, and this Committee subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted :—

GOLDEN FLEECE LODGE.

The Committee to whom was referred the by-laws of Golden Fleece Lodge, respectfully report —

That they have examined the code of by-laws and records submitted to them, and find them generally correct and in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge. The Committee have suggested some improvements which they recommend. They recommend that when these by-laws as amended shall have been approved by the Grand Master, a Charter be issued to them in accordance with their petition.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

HENRY CHICKERING.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

A complaint of Merrimac Lodge against St. Mark's Lodge for initiating a candidate who had been rejected by the former, was presented, and referred to Brothers Heard, Thompson, and Hutchinson, who had permission to report at the next Quarterly Communication.

The papers in the case of John W. Allison, who had been expelled by Jerusalem Lodge, were presented and referred to Brothers Skinner, J. P. Lovell, and Baker, who subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted : —

REPORT ON J. W. ALLISON.

The Committee to whom was referred the doings of Jerusalem Lodge, Northampton, relating to the expulsion of J. W. Allison, have attended to that duty, and find the various charges fully sustained, and would respectfully recommend that the doings of said Lodge be approved.

HENRY C. SKINNER.

J. P. LOVELL.

WILLIAM W. BAKER.

A communication from Day Spring Lodge was received, and referred to Brothers Dadmun, Salmon, and Paige.

R. W. Bro. Heard proposed the following alterations in and additions to Section 1, Article VII., Part Third of the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge, viz : —

Strike out all that relates to the Jewels of a Past Grand Master and Past Deputy Grand Master, and insert the following : —

“ Each Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master, and Past Grand Warden, shall be distinguished by the Jewel prescribed for the office he has filled, with this difference, that such Jewel shall be fixed within a circle or oval.”

The proposed Jewels were suggested by the subjoined extract from “ Preston’s Illustration of Masonry ” : —

“ On Feb. 14, 1776, the Grand Lodge *Resolved*, That in future all Past Grand Officers should be permitted to wear a particular gold Jewel, the ground enamelled blue ; and each officer be distinguished by the Jewel which he wore while in office, with this difference, that such honorary Jewel should be fixed within a circle or oval ; on the border of which were to be inscribed his name and the year in which he served the office. This Jewel to be worn in Grand Lodge, pendant to a broad blue ribbon, and on other occasions to be fixed to the breast by a narrow blue ribbon.”

The subject was referred to Brothers Heard, Lewis, and Moore.

The Committees on Charity offered the following reports, which were adopted : —

BOSTON, December 18, 1865.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The undersigned Committee on Charity of the Grand Lodge hereby submit the following report : —

We have received from the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge twenty-two hundred and fifty dollars (\$2250) ; twenty-two hundred and thirty-five dollars of which we have disbursed to two hundred and thirty-one (231) worthy applicants, leaving a balance on hand of fifteen dollars (\$15).

SAMUEL H. GREGORY.
WILLIAM READ.
EBEN F. GAY.
L. L. TARBELL.
EDWARD STEARNS.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CHARITY.

The undersigned, a Special Committee on Charity, respectfully report —

That they have received from the Grand Treasurer the past year,	
by vote of the Grand Lodge	\$450.00
Balance on hand at last report	6.94
Total	<u>\$456.94</u>
They have distributed in charity, during the year	\$220.50
Balance on hand	<u>\$236.44</u>

WILLIAM PARKMAN.
CHAS. W. MOORE.

GRAND LODGE, December 18, 1865.

The report of the Auditing Committee was presented and adopted.

The R. W. Bro. Lewis presented the following report on the Library, which was adopted : —

REPORT ON THE LIBRARY.

That the small nucleus of which it is hoped will be the commencement of a large collection of Masonic works, has been very

considerably augmented since the last report. It now contains about five hundred volumes, all in good order and well bound, besides a large number of pamphlets. There was received from the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge \$400, being the amount insured on the Library which was destroyed. This of course has been more than expended.

A perfect catalogue has been made of every book and pamphlet, which includes a systematic index. Fifty volumes of the transactions of Grand Lodges and other Masonic organizations have been bound in a substantial and neat manner.

To the urgent appeal of the Committee on the Library to the Fraternity, to supply by donation the loss sustained by fire, there has not been that response which should have been so emphatically exhibited. Some exemplars of devotion to the cause have manifested their liberality, and these instances will be promulgated in a future report; and it is to be hoped, that of those now present some may be prompted by this palpable hint to cause themselves to be registered among the benefactors to Masonic literature.

To those of the Order who are unacquainted with the bibliography of Freemasonry, it may not be irrelevant to state, that among the large collections of Europe there are some (and it will surprise those who may not be informed of the fact) that number thousands of volumes. Your chairman at his late visit to the Hague, had the pleasure to view the great Library of the late Dr. Kloss, now the property of the illustrious Grand Master of Holland, Prince of the Netherlands, which contains more than 10,000 volumes on the subject of the Order. This collection is open to and free for all Masons, and if any brother should visit that interesting spot, he will be welcomed cordially by the Grand Archæologist and Grand Secretary, the savant Bro. G. G. F. Noordziek.

It is hoped that Massachusetts will come up to a high standard in this particular, and maintain in this, as in other characteristics, its pre-eminent distinction.

There has been received a large engraved portrait of the Grand Master of England, and a view of the Masonic Temple at Geneva; these have been framed, and are the donation of a brother.

December 13, 1865.

WINSLOW LEWIS, *Chairman.*

THE ELECTION.

At 3 o'clock, the hour fixed by the Constitutions for the election of officers, the Grand Master ordered a return of the voters; and Brothers Nickerson, Kent, Brainard, Kimball, and Joy were appointed a committee to distribute and report the votes, with Brothers Edward Stearns, H. Brown, and Williams to assist them in that duty.

The election then proceeded, and the following Brethren were respectively elected to the offices appended to their names:—

R. W. CHARLES C. DAME of Newburyport . . .	Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM SUTTON of Salem . . .	Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL of Boston . . .	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN McCLELLAN of Boston . . .	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE of Boston . . .	Recording Grand Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

R. W. WINSLOW LEWIS, SERENO D. NICKERSON, SOLON THORNTON,
ALBERT H. KELSEY, CHARLES A. WELCH.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

SERENO D. NICKERSON, SAMUEL P. OLIVER, SOLON THORNTON.

The elections being completed, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Brothers Stratton, Kent, and H. Warren, a committee to make arrangements for the Installation of the Officers on the evening of the 27th instant.

The Grand Lodge was then closed until the next morning at 9 o'clock, when it was again assembled for the exemplification of the Work by the Grand Lecturers, and continued in session during the entire day, there being nearly *six hundred* brethren present, including the Masters and Wardens of not less than one hundred Lodges. It was the most numerously attended meeting of the kind in the history of the Grand Lodge.

At half-past 5 o'clock the Grand Lodge was closed, and the brethren retired.

STATED COMMUNICATION,

DEC. 27, A.L. 5865.

A STATED COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, December 27, A.L. 5865, for the Installation of its Officers and the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

Present.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES C. DAME	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WENDELL T. DAVIS	Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. W. W. BAKER	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. J. W. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain <i>pro tem</i> .
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword Bearer.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Steward.
W. E. D. BANCROFT	Senior Grand Lecturer.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R. W. WILLIAM SUTTON	District No. 2.
R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	District No. 3.
R. W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
R. W. Rev. J. W. DADMUN	District No. 6.
R. W. L. W. LOVELL	District No. 7.
R. W. Rev. R. S. POPE	District No. 8.
R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
R. W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	District No. 12.

The Grand Lodge was opened at half-past 6 o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The sum of five hundred dollars was voted to the Charity Committee, for distribution to needy applicants.

The M. W. Grand Master then read his —

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

BRETHREN,—Another year has passed, and with it another page of our Masonic record is to be this day finished. Before we proceed with the important business of the hour let me ask you all to join with me in the expression of the most fervent gratitude to Almighty God for the unnumbered blessings we have enjoyed ; for health, for prosperity, for the pleasure of meeting each other once and again within our Masonic home ; and, above all, for the return of that blessed peace which now reigns throughout our beloved country.

A short year since, when we were here assembled on the anniversary of St. John's Day, a large portion of our country was the scene of terrible warfare. Brother was armed against brother, section against section, and our beloved land was distracted by a bloody, fearful, fratricidal war. During the last few months our arms and the Union have been successful. Our cause has triumphed. Justice, and civil and religious liberty are again the law. Thanks be to God that the Stars and Stripes of our glorious old flag now proudly float over every State capitol in our land ; and all men, of every color, who claim common citizenship, are FREE. Arts and manufactures are again busy throughout our land ; the sails of our gallant merchant-ships are again whitening every sea, blessing the nations of the earth with our extended and increasing commerce, which is at once the corn, wine, and oil of the world.

While this fearful war has raged, and while all these tribulations have beset the American people, our beloved Masonic Institution has pursued the even tenor of its way more undisturbed than any other civil organization. During the past year we have enjoyed unexampled prosperity. With the great increase in numbers there has been a most liberal addition to the wealth of our general funds and property. No less than twelve new halls have been dedicated to Masonic uses within Massachusetts alone. Indeed so rapid has been our growth, and so large the accession to our numbers, that many of our older and more thoughtful brethren express the deepest anxiety lest we should be growing too rapidly for our own good.

I would urge upon all the utmost care in the selection of candidates. Let no man pass the ballot-box who has not a fair, unblemished reputation, not simply of a *negative* character,—one of which no one speaks ill,—but of a positive good character, embodying the full integrity of a MAN.

My deep conviction is, that of the large numbers so rapidly being introduced into our institution, few, very few pause to analyze the beautiful allegory to which they have been introduced. The esoteric beauties of Masonry can be attained only by the careful, thoughtful, earnest student, who, while he sees will think, and while he reads will deeply and carefully reflect. Those who progress slowly, observing all as they pass, gain knowledge by degrees, which they enjoy, and thus they realize that “a thing of beauty is a joy forever.”

I most earnestly exhort **all** the Lodges to return and firmly adhere to the old landmarks. Let no candidate be advanced unless he is thoroughly familiar with the work and ritual of the degree he has passed. This is our only safeguard for making intelligent and appreciative Masons.

I again call your attention to the vexed subject of Dispensations, to which so many of the annual addresses have alluded. The number granted this year is very large, though less in proportion than the last year. In almost every case where the degrees are so conferred they are more hurried than if given in the regular course, and always with increased cost to the Lodge. In my judgment the only true remedy for the evil will be found in the firm resolution of all Masters to decline asking for Dispensations, except upon the most urgent necessity.

To the District Deputy Grand Masters I return my sincere thanks for their prompt and unwearied zeal in the discharge of the duty assigned them. All have been active; and the full and complete Reports for the various Districts will be printed for your perusal, and will give a complete history of the condition of all the Lodges in our jurisdiction. Where all have done so well any especial mention would seem invidious, and I can only say to them, *one and all*, in behalf of the M. W. Grand Lodge, I most sincerely thank you.

I herewith submit a detailed statement of work accomplished by the Grand Master and the District Deputies.

The whole number of Lodges Chartered and under Dispensation in the Commonwealth is now	143
Whole number of affiliated brethren	15,000
Whole number of initiates the present year	2,904
Whole number of initiates in 1863	1,700
Whole number of initiates in 1864	2,600
Whole number of initiates in 1865	2,904
	<hr/> 7,104

DISPENSATIONS FOR NEW LODGES AND RENEWALS.

December 8. Renewed the Dispensation of Army Lodge No. 8, for one year from November 13. Located near Petersburg, Virginia.

December 14. Dispensation for Mount Hollis Lodge at Holliston. E. F. Whitney, W. M.; W. H. Packer, S. W.; G. T. Daniels, J. W., and ten others.

February 11. Dispensation for Golden Fleece Lodge at Lynn. T. G. Senter, W. M.; H. C. Blethen, S. W.; John G. Dudley, J. W., and twenty-six others.

February 22. Dispensation for Lodge of Eleusis at Boston. Henry W. Warren, W. M.; Richard Briggs, S. W.; George P. Sanger, J. W., and twenty-one others.

May 9. Dispensation for Athelstane Lodge at Worcester. Henry Goddard, W. M.; H. T. Bigelow, S. W.; E. P. Woodman, J. W., and twenty-eight others.

June 12. Dispensation for La Fayette Lodge at Roxbury. Charles J. Danforth, W. M.; John Kneeland, S. W.; William Hobbs, jr., J. W., and twenty-one others.

June 15. Dispensation for Konohassett Lodge at Cohasset. George Beal, jr., W. M.; James H. Bouve, S. W.; Zaccheus Rich, J. W., and eleven others.

August 8. Dispensation for Acacia Lodge at Gloucester. Fitz J. Babson, W. M.; George B. Honnors, S. W.; William H. Steele, J. W., and seventeen others.

September 1. Dispensation for Artisan Lodge at Winchendon. John G. Folsom, W. M.; Francis W. White, S. W.; Wildes P. Clark, J. W., and twenty-six others.

September 13. Dispensation for James Otis Lodge at Barnstable. James Marston, W. M.; Elijah Lewis, S. W.; Elisha Jenkins, J. W., and six others.

September 27. Dispensation for Adelphi Lodge at South Boston. N. A. Appollonio, W. M.; E. H. Brainard, S. W.; Frank E. Jones, J. W., and twenty-one others.

October 10. Dispensation for Charles W. Moore Lodge at Fitchburg. E. Dana Bancroft, W. M.; Moses G. Lyon, S. W.; H. F. Coggeshall, J. W., and fifteen others.

December 14. Dispensation for Adams Lodge, Wellfleet, to N. M. Rich and others.

CHARTERS ISSUED.

December 11. Doric Lodge, Feltonville. Constituted January 19, and publicly installed officers in the church in presence of a large audience.

March 8. Hope Lodge, Gardner. Constituted May 3.

March 8. Ancient Landmark Lodge at Shanghai. Duly consecrated by the resident District Deputy, and now in the best working condition.

March 8. May Flower Lodge at Middleboro. Consecrated March 20.

March 8. Belmont Lodge at Belmont. Consecrated April 5.

March 8. Roswell Lee Lodge at Springfield. Consecrated March 14.

March 8. Starr King Lodge, Salem. Consecrated April 17.

March 8. Saint James Lodge at Mansfield. Consecrated March 24.

June 14. William Parkman Lodge at Winchester. Consecrated June 22.

June 14. North Star Lodge, Ashland. Consecrated the Lodge June 14, and publicly installed the officers in the presence of a very large audience of ladies and gentlemen.

June 14. John T. Heard Lodge at Ipswich. Consecrated July 7, and publicly installed the officers in the Orthodox church, in the presence of a very large audience.

June 14. Star Lodge at Athol. Consecrated July 20, and publicly installed the officers in the Unitarian church, in the presence of a very large audience.

December 13. The Lodge of Eleusis, Boston. Consecrated December 18, and installed the officers. The Lodge is in a most satisfactory and flourishing condition.

December 13. Saggaheew Lodge, Haverhill.

December 13. Mount Hollis Lodge, Holliston.

December 13. Golden Fleece Lodge, Lynn. Consecrated and officers installed December 26.

DISPENSATIONS RETURNED AND RECALLED.

November 8. Army Lodge No. 8 returned Dispensation with satisfactory Returns.

August 6. Army Lodge No. 4 returned Dispensation with satisfactory Returns.

December 12. Army Lodge No. 5 returned Dispensation with satisfactory Returns.

United Lodge at Huntington, having lost their all by fire, are discouraged, and will probably return their Dispensation.

DEDICATION OF NEW HALLS.

A new Hall for Doric Lodge at Feltonville, over the church; a newly fitted and comfortable room and ante-rooms; paid for by the liberal subscriptions of brethren.

February 7. A new Hall for Tyrian Lodge, Gloucester; beautifully fitted and very convenient. The Dedication was public, and the audience very large.

March 17. A new Hall and entire suit of apartments for Washington Lodge, Roxbury. The apartments are spacious, elegantly designed and furnished, and in the large hall is an organ of most tasteful design and great elegance.

March 20. A new Hall for May Flower Lodge at Middleboro, owned by the Lodge.

April 17. A new Hall and entire suit of apartments for Starr King Lodge at Salem. Hall and ante-rooms very spacious and elegantly fitted.

May 1. A new Hall for Monitor Lodge at Waltham. The services were public, and the hall filled to its utmost capacity. The occasion was one of great interest.

May 3. A new Hall for Hope Lodge, Gardner. A beautiful suite of apartments, situated over the Town Hall, designed and fitted with most exquisite taste, and reflecting great credit upon the liberality of the brethren who were this day consecrated into a Lodge.

June 22. A new Hall and suite of ante-rooms for the William Parkman Lodge of Winchester. This is one of the most beautiful halls within our jurisdiction, and every apartment shows the skill of a master workman. The occasion was enlivened with music of a high order, most beautifully performed in the presence of a crowded assembly.

July 8. A new Hall for John T. Heard Lodge, Ipswich.

July 20. A new Hall and suite of ante-rooms for Star Lodge, Athol; fitted by the brethren at considerable expense, and furnishing them a convenient hall of their own.

December 22. A new Hall for Day Spring Lodge, Monson; a very neat and commodious apartment.

December 25. A new Hall at Harwich; an exceedingly neat room and apartments, very comfortable, and reflecting great credit upon the liberality of the brethren.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

January 25. Publicly installed the officers of Bristol Lodge at Attleboro, in presence of a large audience. The Lodge is well organized, and in excellent working condition.

April 13. Visited King Hiram Lodge of Provincetown. This Lodge was chartered in 1795, and is full of new and active material. They have upon their roll many very true and excellent old members, whose ardor is still unabated. The visit was one of more than ordinary interest.

April 28. Visited Wyoming Lodge at Melrose upon the celebration of the anniversary of the dedication of their very beautiful hall.

September 11. Publicly installed the officers of Aurora Lodge at Fitchburg. As a part of the ceremony the audience was favored with some music of a high order, performed by an excellent quartette choir.

October 2. Installed the officers of St. Paul's Lodge at Groton. This old Lodge is still vigorous and in good hands. The officers are expert and show the careful training of our untiring Grand Lecturer, Brother Bancroft.

October 31. Made an official visit to Old Colony Lodge at Hingham. Condition excellent.

November 16. Publicly installed the officers of Rural Lodge at Quincy.

November 21. Publicly installed the officers of Montacute Lodge at Worcester, assisted by the W. Grand Marshal and a full delegation. This Lodge has shown uncommon activity, and has furnished almost all the members who have formed Athelstane Lodge at Worcester.

December 1. Visited Konohassett Lodge at Cohasset, now under Dispensation. They have fitted a neat Hall, which is well furnished, and they are in good working condition.

In addition to the above-named visits I have accomplished about one visit each week during the whole year.

The subject of Decisions is brought almost daily to the notice of the Grand Master, from the fact that brethren are from time to time called to the office of Master who are not familiar with the duties and prerogatives of the executive officer of the Lodge. In my opinion these decisions are, most of them, simple directions for the Master in the government of his Lodge, and I have heretofore made no mention of such action upon my part. During the past year an application was made to me which I deem of sufficient importance to bring to your notice. The Gate of the Temple Lodge, located by its Charter in that part of this city known as South Boston, applied to me for permission to remove said Lodge within the limits of the city proper. The reasons were stated to be, insufficient accommodation in the Hall now occupied; their inability to obtain a hall in South Boston suited to their purpose; and further, if they were removed to the city proper they could obtain more work. I decided that they could not remove. Having been, by their own request, located in South Boston, and that fact being stated in their Charter, it would be unjust to all the Lodges in Boston to permit a large and active Lodge to come into their midst without their consent, and against the express provisions of its Charter. As evidence that there is no lack of Masonic material in South Boston, and that the accommodations are tolerable, I may state that, since this decision, several brethren, among whom are Past Masters, have applied for and obtained a Dispensation for a new Lodge, to be known as Adelphi Lodge,

and located at South Boston. They have commenced their labors, and I am assured with a prospect of ultimate success.

Upon the subject of the New Temple I submit to you the letter of Brother S. K. Hutchinson, who is employed to superintend the building : —

“ WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq.

“ DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,— Agreeably to your request I will give a statement of the commencement of the Masonic building. The contract for quarrying the stone was made as early as May 3d, at Concord, N. H., and by the terms of the contract the stone was all to be delivered on or before November 1st, 1865. But in consequence of the contract not being made for the cutting until the 3d of August, the stone contractor was unable to fulfill his contract, and has now delivered only about seven thousand feet. On the 8th of August the masons commenced the preparation of the foundation. A portion of the walls are now ready for the second floor. On the 9th of August the first stone was delivered to the stone-cutters, since which time they have employed from fifty to sixty men, with a prospect that the stone will be delivered in sufficient quantities to keep that number employed during the winter. The three base courses are now set, and the foundation is ready for the stone columns. The prospect is that all the stone may be delivered at the building early in July, 1866.

“ A portion of the lumber for the floorings and roof is now ready, and we have the assurance of the contractor that all shall be delivered early the coming spring.

“ All which is respectfully submitted.

“ Fraternaly yours,

“ S. K. HUTCHINSON.”

While upon this subject allow me to express my deep regret at our seeming want of progress. It has been owing to circumstances, many of which were beyond our control. At the close of the war, in May last, we immediately set about our labors. They have been slow, but we have now the assurance from the quarry contractor that the stone shall be ready as early as wanted ; and we have the promise of Messrs. Runnels, Clough & Co. that it shall be hammered in sufficient quantity to commence with the earliest spring, and that it shall be finished in the early summer, within the time specified — June 30, 1866.

We express the hope to see this noble edifice completed within the next year. When finished it will be an ornament to our beloved city, and a monument of the taste, public spirit, and liber-

ality of the fraternity. It will be one of the most magnificent buildings in Boston. While some may question our prudence in erecting a structure of so great value at the present high cost of all material and labor, yet with a Fraternity so large as ours (now numbering some 15,000), it would seem that we ought to have a Home in the capital of our State, to which all our brethren can point with pride and say, "It was erected by our Fraternity."

It should be disencumbered of all mortgage. I will venture to suggest that by a little effort a plan could be matured by which, for a sum paid by each Lodge equal to one dollar a year for each of its members, in the short period of ten years a fund could be obtained sufficient to sweep off every encumbrance, and leave this magnificent property and building as a Home for our Fraternity in all coming time, and located, where it ought to be, in the capital of the State.

No jealousy ought to be felt by our brethren of the country towns in paying the funds for this legitimate object of our institution; for it should be kept constantly in mind that, while the branch of our Fraternity located in Boston has always occupied apartments with the M. W. Grand Lodge, the brethren have ever paid a full rent therefor, and have also expressed the utmost willingness to pay a very liberal rent for the part of the new building they propose to occupy.

Could this or any other plan be adopted by which all encumbrance should be removed from the property, the whole income would enable us to increase the charities of our Institution and thus more fully carry out, what every true-hearted brother will always admit is a fundamental principle of Freemasonry, the help of the unfortunate. As every Lodge is represented by its three votes in the Grand Lodge, the rights of all will be fully protected; and what is planted here in Boston for the benefit of the Fraternity will always be subject to the action of the Grand Lodge when in session. No local influence can be brought to bear unfairly by the Boston branch of the Fraternity, who are simply tenants, and have no more right to vote than the rest of the Lodges.

Earnestly commending this whole subject to you, I express the hope that it may receive your early and careful consideration, and

such prompt action, as in a few years will permit us to have a home which shall be devoted to social culture, and the whole income of which shall be expended in charity for the unfortunate in our Institution.

Our charities, through your liberality, have been much larger than ever before. The system adopted by our Committee has worked well; but it should be kept in mind by every brother that it is a part of his individual duty to find the needs and claims, as far as possible, of those who make application to him personally for Masonic charity. The Committee have found their task quite burdensome in consequence of the great number of applicants whose cases must be investigated before help can be granted. These labors would be much lessened if every brother who sends a case to the Committee would himself investigate as far as possible. I would further suggest that a custom has obtained to very considerable extent with many, to send indiscriminately all who may apply for any help to the Grand Master, saying to them "Go to him and he will help you." This is entirely wrong. The Grand Master is not the head of your Bureau of Charity, and it is not a part of his duty to dispense charity. He is the executive of the Grand Lodge, and in his legitimate field of labor has his full share of work. While I have always cheerfully disbursed the little put in my hands for that purpose, I have found no day in the last year in which I have not been obliged to look for and obtain help for some applicant for Masonic charity and often for work, when perhaps the brother who sent the applicant had much better opportunity to find either for the petitioner than the Grand Master, who of necessity has his full share of calls from those without our jurisdiction. I trust these plain hints will produce reform.

On the subject of Army Lodges, there has been a great variety of opinions held and expressed. Many of our sister jurisdictions refuse, under any circumstances, to grant such Dispensations. When I entered upon my duties as Grand Master, I found my immediate predecessor had started several of that kind of Lodges on condition that they should confer the degrees only upon members of their own regiments, and natives of Massachusetts. These Lodges have all done some work; some of them a large

amount ; and among the records are found as well-kept and careful transcripts of proceedings as any Lodge might feel proud to emulate. Some of them have every page covered with golden records of the good done to wounded and distressed brethren, or of money spent in recovering from the field the bodies of those who have fallen in defence of our flag and sending them home to their bereaved friends.

Every dollar earned by these Lodges has been nobly expended in the true Masonic field of charity in its largest sense, and they all deserve our earnest commendation. The returns will be found with the Reports of the District Deputies.

My brethren, I have furnished you with a long record of the work of the year just closing ; but it is a mere outline of the amount of labor performed. Three years since, when your preference placed me at the head of our beloved Institution, I had great distrust of my own ability to accomplish the vast labor that would necessarily devolve upon me ; but by the kind help of all my brethren, it has been accomplished, and the increased and still increasing labors have been promptly met, and, as I believe, almost entirely completed, leaving to my successor a clear docket to commence with.

Our financial condition is excellent. While our expenditures have been very heavy, our receipts from the large number of candidates have also been large. All moneys expended for visiting Lodges, either by the Grand Master and suite, or by the District Deputies, I believe to have been well and profitably spent for the real and permanent good of the Institution.

In my judgment the social principle of Freemasonry is just as much a fundamental element as the duty of charity. The latter cannot long be kept up and carried out unless the former is from time to time called into action to bring the brethren around the social board. With this view of the nature of our Institution I have, during my administration of affairs, always ordered an entertainment upon the day set apart for the exemplification of the Work and Lectures, at which time all present have been invited to partake of a dinner, provided at the expense of the Grand Lodge. This meeting has proved one of great interest and profit to our whole jurisdiction. As evidence of the interest manifested

this year, I may state that over six hundred brethren were present to witness the exhibition of the Work and Lectures, and five hundred and twenty partook of the mid-day feast. It was truly a season of great refreshment. We were also permitted to assemble around the social board upon St. John's Day, after the Installation ceremonies.

Our Institution is in excellent condition. Funds are provided for the vigorous prosecution of the work upon our new Temple at the earliest moment of the opening spring. I trust that the unanimity which has marked your action from the moment of the inception of this vast undertaking will be continued until it shall be completed and every incumbrance upon it fully paid, so that we may point to it as our *own home*.

Three years since I entered upon the duties of Grand Master with a deep conviction, of twenty years growth, of the firm and abiding faith in their principles, and in each other, which has always been manifested during my intercourse with the Fraternity. With the large experience of the past three years my faith has not been disappointed; but to-night, my brethren, with the whole flood of kindnesses that now swell up before my mind, I am more deeply impressed than ever before with the conviction that the divine principles of our glorious old moss-covered allegories are the true principles with which to indoctrinate the human heart, and stimulate it to high and noble purposes.

But, my brethren, I must close. Before doing so, however, allow me to say, that during all my three years of labor I have found my brethren ready at all times to aid me in serving the interests of the Fraternity. I have found with all, helping hands, and ready and willing hearts. Good purposes have been suggested all about me. Be assured I am not unmindful of these favors. While I say to each and every officer, from the highest to the lowest, I thank you! so to every well-beloved brother now before me, or in the Institution, if he has done anything to aid me in discharging the duties to which your preference called me, I say, one and all, I thank you!

And may peace, joy, and prosperity be our lot for length of days to come, until the last syllable of recorded time.

The Address was listened to with great attention, and on motion was ordered to be printed, and referred to Brothers Train, Heard, Woodbury, Moore, Lewis, Coolidge, and Gardner.

The next business being the installation of officers, R. W. Brothers Heard, Coolidge, Lewis, Gardner, and Jones were appointed a Committee to introduce the new Grand Master elect. The Committee having attended to that duty, the R. W. CHARLES C. DAME, Esq., of Newburyport, was duly installed Grand Master of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the ensuing year, and saluted as such in due and ancient form.

The new Grand Master then installed the Grand Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary, and announced the appointment of R. W. Sereno D. Nickerson as his Deputy for the ensuing year, and having installed him into his office, directed him to install the appointed officers as follows :—

R. W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY, Boston	Cor. Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. WILLIAM R. ALGER, Boston	} Grand Chaplains.
W. Rev. J. W. DADMUN, Boston	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON, Melrose	
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY, Cambridge	Grand Marshal.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER, Boston	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. F. J. FOSS, Malden	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, Boston	} Junior Grand Deacon.
W. H. H. P. WHITEMORE, Marblehead	
W. GEORGE FROST, Roxbury	
W. ARTHUR CHENEY, Boston	
W. J. EDWARD EVERETT, South Dedham	} Grand Stewards.
W. CHARLES HEYWOOD, Gardner	
W. NICHOLAS JOHNSON, Newburyport	
W. E. D. BANCROFT, South Groton	} Grand Pursuivants.
W. L. H. GAMWELL, Pittsfield	
W. IVORY H. POPE, Boston	
Bro. J. B. RHODES, Boston	Standard-Bearer.
Bro. WILLIAM H. KENT, Charlestown	Grand Organist.
Bro. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Chorister.
	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX, Boston	District No. 1.
R. W. GEORGE H. PIERSON, Salem	District No. 2.
R. W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, Lawrence	District No. 3.
R. W. H. C. SKINNER, Milford	District No. 4.
R. W. JONATHAN R. GAY, Stoughton	District No. 5.
R. W. A. A. BURDITT, Clinton	District No. 6.
R. W. JOHN B. BAYLIES, New Bedford	District No. 7.
R. W. R. S. POPE, Hyannis	District No. 8.
R. W. H. CHICKERING, Pittsfield	District No. 9.
R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, Northampton	District No. 10.
R. W. S. O. DEARBORN, Melrose	District No. 11.
R. W. N. A. THOMPSON, Boston	District No. 12.
R. W. GEORGE H. KENDALL, Valparaiso, S.A.	District No. 13.
R. W. ITHIMA B. EAMES, Shanghae, China	District No. 14.

The foregoing officers having been installed, the following Committees were announced :—

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

S. D. NICKERSON, SAMUEL P. OLIVER, SOLON THORNTON.

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY.

WINSLOW LEWIS, J. H. SHEPPARD, W. S. GARDNER.

COMMITTEE ON CHARITY.

S. H. GREGORY, WILLIAM REED, E. F. GAY, L. L. TARBELL,
E. M. P. WELLS.

The usual proclamation was then made by the Grand Marshal, after which the M. W. Grand Master delivered the following brief and appropriate

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE,—By the expression of your confidence I have been called to preside over your deliberations, and to discharge the high and important duties connected with the greatest honor in your power to confer. I return to you my grateful acknowledgments for your partiality and kindness, and the high honor which I have received at your hands, and

assure you that my most earnest endeavor will be to discharge the duties of my office impartially and faithfully, and to maintain the dignity, honor, and character of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

In assuming the responsibilities of this high position, I rely with confidence upon your cordial co-operation to assist me in promoting the prosperity and continuing the harmony which now prevail throughout our jurisdiction. We are all equally interested in the same great work, and have for our guide the Constitutions of our Order, framed from the wisdom of ages, and expounded by the untiring exertions of those whom this Grand Lodge have been pleased to honor in high official stations.

These Constitutions are for the government of the whole fraternity, and with the laws and regulations of this Grand Lodge, binding alike upon every member within our jurisdiction, whether he be an entered apprentice, taking his first step in the mysteries of our Order, or the Grand Master exercising the high functions of his office.

By a diligent observance of our Constitutions, Laws, and Regulations, and an early explanation of their excellent precepts to those who receive light at our hands, the prosperity of our Order will be preserved, harmony and good feeling will continue, and all will be united in upholding the noble principles of our ancient and time-honored institution.

The Work and Lectures as exemplified by the Grand Lecturers in the year 1862, having been approved by this Grand Lodge, and it being the duty of the Grand Lecturers to instruct according to this system until this Grand Lodge shall otherwise direct, all Lodges should strictly conform thereto. No power exists, except in this Grand Lodge, to change or vary this work, and no other should be practised or taught by any one. No lecturer other than one of the Grand Lecturers can be employed by any Lodge without the written authority of the Grand Master, and the instructions of the Grand Lecturers cannot be interfered with except by the Grand Master, or by the Grand Lodge. I trust that all will exert themselves to preserve our ritual from any, even the least, innovation.

The present condition of our fraternity throughout our juris-

diction having been so fully placed before you by him who has zealously watched over its interests during the last three years, it is unnecessary that I should make it the subject of address. Allow me, however, to rejoice with you at the prosperity which pervades our jurisdiction, and the strength and harmony of our honored institution throughout our country. The rapid increase of applicants to join our numbers requires unusual vigilance that none but those who will strengthen and adorn our institution are permitted to pass our portals. With proper care the prosperity which now attends us will continue, and the blessings which flow from our Order will exert their benign influence in all coming time.

The R. W. Bro. Gardner, from the Committee on the petition for the relief of the Masonic bodies at Columbia, S.C., asked and obtained permission to present the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 27, A.L. 5865.

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial of a Committee of Masons of Columbia, S. C., praying for pecuniary aid to re-establish the institution in that city, respectfully report —

Your Committee have read with much attention the eloquent and touching appeal to the "Fraternity of Masons throughout the United States," from the pen of that accomplished scholar and distinguished writer, Bro. W. Gilmore Simms, which the Grand Lodge has submitted to them. . It is apparent that the ravages of war have not spared our brethren of that unfortunate city ; their private dwellings and property have been destroyed by fire ; their temples reduced to ashes, and all the paraphernalia of their Lodges, their altars, jewels, tools, insignia, and banners, have been consigned to a common ruin. In their utter destitution they appeal to the benevolence and charity of the Fraternity to come to their aid ; to assist them in rebuilding their Temple, in erecting the Masonic Altars again in the capital of their State, and in restoring to its former influential position the Order of Masonry.

But they do not plead for assistance upon the simple score of brotherhood ; they "claim to have been always true to the brethren, even when war raged like a demon through the land," that they have sought out their Northern brethren in the prisons

where they lay captive ; have supplied them with money, clothes, comforts, and even luxuries ; have obtained their temporary release from prison that they might join with the brethren of Columbia in the rights of Masonry. Thus they confidently appeal to the testimony of hundreds of their captives, to speak of no other guests, to show that they have been faithful to their brethren, and to all those principles and laws of our sacred Order, which are paramount in the minds and souls of all the brotherhood.

It is the duty of Masons to assuage the miseries of war ; to soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, and to compassionate their miseries, are among the tenets of our profession. Our brethren of South Carolina have thus been performing their duties as Masons, and fulfilling their obligations ; numerous instances of their kindness and attention to the craft, to those soldiers from the North whom the sad fate of war has thrown upon their compassion, have been told by those whose lives have been spared. Your Committee believe it to be not out of place in this report, to make record of the fact, that South Carolina Masons, in repeated instances, have comforted the sick, relieved the distressed, liberated the captive, and consoled the dying brethren from Massachusetts.

The financial condition of our Grand Lodge at the present time, is such as to require of us the most careful and rigid economy. Like our brethren who have addressed us in such pathetic appeals, we have recently met with a most serious loss ; in the midst of peace, comfort, and unexampled prosperity, the avenging element in one night destroyed our Temple with all the valuable property which it contained, reducing to ashes the archives of our Grand Lodge, full of the most pleasing mementos of the past. The foundations of a new Temple have been laid upon the ruins, and we trust that before long, like the immortal bird of antiquity, there will rise from the ashes one more elegant and beautiful than that which was consumed ; all the resources of the Grand Lodge, its means and its credit, will be necessary to carry out the enterprise ; for the time being our expenditures must be reduced, and even our charities limited.

Thus while we would cheerfully and with alacrity assist our brethren of South Carolina, while our hearts respond to their ear-

nest appeal for aid, and our desires are ardent to assist them, the present condition of our Treasury prevents.

Your Committee desire, however, to present the cause of our suffering brethren of Columbia to the Lodges and craft generally of Massachusetts, as worthy objects of their charities, and as deserving their assistance.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

C. LEVI WOODBURY.

GEORGE W. WARREN.

The report was unanimously adopted ; and, on motion, it was ordered, that in accordance with an old Masonic custom, now almost or quite obsolete, the Grand Marshal and Deacons were ordered "to pass the hat round among the brethren" for such voluntary contributions as they might individually feel disposed to make for the purpose stated ; the result was the collection of \$123.67, which was subsequently made up to the even sum of \$200, and the Committee were instructed to forward the same to the memorialists.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form ; after which the brethren repaired to the Banqueting-Hall for the celebration of the "Annual Feast."

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

FIRST DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,— Having, to the best of my ability, fulfilled the duties of District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District, for which honorable position I am indebted to your kind consideration, I beg leave to submit the accompanying remarks upon the returns and condition of the several Lodges comprising said district.

The following table, arranged in the order of my official visits, contains such statistics as will enable you to judge of the present condition of the first district, and the result of its labors for the past year:—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Date of Visitation.	No. of Members.	Initiations.	Rejections.
Pequossette . . .	Watertown . . .	Oct. 9 . . .	97 . . .	17 . . .	8
St. Andrews' . . .	Boston . . .	" 12 . . .	46 . . .	7 . . .	1
Hammatt . . .	East Boston . . .	" 25 . . .	53 . . .	32 . . .	9
Mount Tabor . . .	" " . . .	" 26 . . .	199 . . .	37 . . .	25
Monitor . . .	Waltham . . .	" 30 . . .	104 . . .	18 . . .	18
Bethesda . . .	Brighton . . .	" 31 . . .	68 . . .	11 . . .	2
St. John's . . .	Boston . . .	Nov. 6 . . .	305 . . .	37 . . .	14
Revere . . .	" . . .	" 7 . . .	160 . . .	18 . . .	8
Winslow Lewis . . .	" . . .	" 10 . . .	49 . . .	21 . . .	2
Mount Lebanon . . .	" . . .	" 18 . . .	273 . . .	38 . . .	19
Baalbec . . .	East Boston . . .	" 14 . . .	142 . . .	33 . . .	24
Belmont . . .	Belmont . . .	Dec. 5 . . .	15 . . .	5 . . .	1
			1,511	269	126

I regret to have to report the above column of rejections, in the relation that it bears with the column of initiates; for, in my judgment, the percentage of rejections is disproportional. Had the proposed been fit subjects for the use of the foul ballot, they should *not* have been "recommended for initiation." The cases herein reported, of nearly one-half rejections in two instances, and nearly *two-thirds* in one instance, will, if long persisted in, break up the Lodge where such contentions exist.

Excuses are sometimes made for this close sifting of candidates, by repeating the phrases, "making Masons too fast," "inordinate rush for the degrees," and kindred sayings. During my visits I have represented the fact of the little danger to the fraternity from such causes, so long as the ratio of Masons bears so humble a proportion to the population of the State. Again I have urged it upon the brethren to exercise great care in the recommendation of candidates for the degrees; and, above all, when a name comes properly before them, not to let personal pique or private ill-will prompt them to do a public wrong by an unfair and improper use of a Mason's sacred ballot.

The work in the several Lodges has been variable; in all fairly, and in some most excellently done; but I would, through you, worshipful sir, enjoin it upon all brethren, whatever their station, to whom is entrusted the exemplification of our ancient rites, not to speak the beautiful language of our ritual "trippingly," but let it come with due solemnity and force, as from the heart; and though they may lack the grace of oratory, yet the words cannot fail to make due impress upon the minds of the hearers. Without intending any comparison between the several Lodges of the first district, I beg leave to enumerate the following as deserving of special mention for general excellence in the work *as a whole*; viz., Winslow Lewis, Revere, Belmont.

Dispensations have been given to confer the degrees out of the regular course in the following instances:—

To Mount Tabor Lodge, candidate H. A. Lovewell, March 17.	
„ Baalbec Lodge, „ Wesley A. Gove, March 21.	
„ Mount Tabor Lodge, „ Zenas C. Flynn, Sept. 7.	
„ Pequossette Lodge, „ George Warren Wood, Oct. 9.	

All the Lodges of the first district have evidenced the utmost loyalty to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, in their kindly reception of myself and suite as its representative, on the occasion of my official visits ; and I thank you, most worshipful sir, for selecting me as the humble recipient of such paternal hospitalities. I also desire to thank, through you, R. W. Brothers Thornton and Alger, W. Brothers Edward Stearns, A. G. Smith, W. W. Baker, S. A. Stetson, and W. U. Moulton, who have so kindly aided me in the discharge of my duties.

Very truly and fraternally yours,

JAMES A. FOX,

Dist. Dep. Grand Master, First Mass. Dist.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

IN submitting this my Sixth Annual Report, as District Deputy Grand Master for the Second Masonic District, I do not propose to go into any details ; but I may state, as the general result of my visitations, official or otherwise, during the past year, that the Lodges in my district are in a prosperous and thriving condition ; that the ancient landmarks of the Order are well preserved ; that the work is correctly and thoroughly done ; and that the social and charitable influences of Masonry, within the limits of my district, are not only unimpaired, but have expanded widely, and are shedding abroad newer and larger benefits and blessings. To this gratifying summary I desire to add but a single statement, which will need no comment, that during my term of office three new Lodges have been instituted, the whole number being now thirteen in the district, besides two under dispensation ; and that while for the first year of that term the fees

paid to the Grand Lodge were \$291, the return for the past year was \$741.

In conclusion, I have only to say, that, thanking you for the confidence reposed in and the courtesy uniformly extended towards me, and fervently hoping that you may be long spared to aid by your wise counsels our ancient and beloved fraternity,

I remain, truly, your friend and brother,

WILLIAM SUTTON,

Dist. Dep. Grand Master, Second Mass. Dist.

SALEM, Dec. 22, 1855.

THIRD DISTRICT.

*To WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., M. W. Grand Master of Masons in
Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — As my second year of service draws near its close, I am reminded that I have an account to render in behalf of the brethren of the Third Masonic District, who have most cordially greeted me on every occasion that it has been my privilege to be specially with them.

In my last report I gave you to understand that business was generally conducted satisfactorily throughout the district, and that where all did so well I could not consistently particularize. This happy condition continues at the present time; and I am convinced that the Lodges located in this district will compare favorably with any in the State in all respects.

The following exhibit of work done, attendance for year, &c., tells its own tale, and needs no comment from me: —

Name and Location of Lodge.	Number of Meetings in Year.	Number of Initiates.	Number of Rejections.	Whole number of Members.	Average Attendance of Members for Year.	Average Attendance of Visitors for Year.
St. Paul's, Groton	14	10	2	88	19	4
Corinthian, Concord	17	14	1	68	20	3
St. Matthew's, Andover	33	16	6	71	18	2
Aurora, Fitchburg	26	14	17	131	27	6
Pentucket, Lowell	35	24	18	238	46	4
Grecian, Lawrence	50	31	21	157	24	3
Merrimack, Haverhill	37	24	20	158	35	6
Ancient York, Lowell	32	25	9	194	28	5
Caleb Butler, Groton Junction	35	8	3	71	16	3
John Hancock, Methuen	51	14	2	51	16	2
Tuscan, Lawrence	50	20	7	77	24	6
Wilder, Leominster	44	12	10	64	23	1
Hope, Gardner (chartered March 9, 1865) }	11	2	3	32	28	2
	485	214	114	1350	323	47

The year just passed has been one of uncommon prosperity ; and the change from war to peace most naturally opens a new and very important field for the cultivation of Masonic duties.

There exists a feeling, well founded it seems to me, that the members of an institution which amidst war withstood the troubles surrounding, and destroying the harmony of nearly every organization of men in these United States, ought to be most zealous in their endeavors to promote peace and good-fellowship now that war is over.

The public prints for the past three years have noted many instances of the advantages of our society, and there seems a greater desire for Masonic degrees than ever before. While we must hope that all candidates are "actuated by a sincere desire to be of service to their fellow men," — and that selfish and mercenary motives find no shelter in their hearts, — that the desire for the degrees will but lead to a stronger desire for that knowledge and true life of which the degree is but a symbol, — yet we cannot but feel that many, very many, seek to rank as brethren among us, who under ordinary circumstances would look with contempt upon our badge, that "emblem of innocence," which all good Masons take pride in wearing worthily ; also that the candidates made by *army Lodges* abroad, and by *dispensations*

before going abroad, have much to learn of the *real worth* of our institution as a social and moral element, aside from its *advantages* in time of war, and that we should never, by precept or example, lead others to suppose that Masonry is to us other than an institution wherein we find the best opportunity for *reciprocal* duty to one another.

DISPENSATIONS. — The number of dispensations issued is about one-half that of last year ; but even the present number is much too large for a healthy Masonic growth.

During this year I have refused all applications for dispensation to *ballot*, and have also refused to grant any for conferring degrees to enable Lodges to finish their work and adjourn during the summer months. While I approve of the custom now quite generally adopted, of closing the Lodges during the months of June, July, and August, I do not feel that it is necessary to crowd three months' work into one, even for the sake of accomplishing so desirable an object.

The dispensations granted, with the dates and causes therefor, I state as follows : —

St. Paul's Lodge, Groton. Dec. 20, 1864. — To ballot and confer degrees on one, home on furlough.

Jan. 24, 1865. — To confer the second and third degrees on one, home on furlough.

Merrimack Lodge, Haverhill. Jan. 10, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, home on furlough.

May 22, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, removed from the State.

Oct. 19, 1865. — For the same object.

Tuscan Lodge, Lawrence. Jan. 18, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, home on furlough..

Aug. 1, 1865. — To confer third degree on one, removed from the State.

Wilder Lodge, Leominster. Feb. 20, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, home on furlough.

Grecian Lodge, Lawrence. June 1, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, removed from the State.

Sept. 8, 1865. — For the same object.

Oct. 16, 1865. — To confer third degree on one, removed from the State.

Pentucket Lodge, Lowell. June 12, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, home on furlough.

Ancient York Lodge, Lowell. Dec. 5, 1865. — To confer second and third degrees on one, removed from the State.

In March I learned that a Lodge where dispensation had been refused, *balloted* and conferred degrees upon two candidates, probably through some misunderstanding.

At your request I commenced an investigation of the matter ; but on the 14th of April transmitted to you all papers and correspondence relating thereto, and have taken no action since then. The subject has, I presume, received from you the attention its importance demands.

I have endeavored, so far as possible, to make official visits to all the Lodges ; but a pressure of business made it imperative upon me to avail myself of a constitutional privilege, and request R. W. Brothers North and Bancroft to attend to my duty in some of the "distant Lodges." I have to acknowledge their kindness and brotherly courtesy in promptly assisting me, and herewith submit their reports.

During the year dispensations have been issued for Charles W. Moore Lodge at Fitchburg and Artisan Lodge at Winchendon ; but as they were not mentioned in my commission, and I was without any instructions from you concerning them, I did not consider it a part of my duty to visit them.

Knowing as I do many of the petitioners for both of these Lodges, I am sure that the interests of Masonry will be well cared for at their hands.

The duties of the office of District Deputy are pleasant, but arduous, and one must needs sacrifice much valuable time to attend faithfully to the business of sixteen Lodges, the number now in this district.

I believe that the labor should be so divided as not to be *burdensome* to any one. With the rapid growth of our Order within a few years, the number of Lodges in most of the districts have been nearly doubled ; and as the result of my experience, and for the benefit of my successors, I am constrained to recom-

mend such a division of the State as will give no more than ten Lodges to any one Deputy.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

WILLIAM F. SALMON.

LOWELL, Dec. 1865.

GROTON JUNCTION, MASS., Nov. 16, 1865.

R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON,—

MY DEAR BROTHER, — On Thursday evening, the 9th of November, I made an official visit to Wilder Lodge, Leominster, accompanied by brethren from St. Paul's and Caleb Butler Lodges. Examined the charter, records, by-laws and returns, and found everything in a satisfactory condition.

They have initiated twelve during the year, who, judging from the appearance of those present, must be the right material.

The E. A.'s degree was worked in a very creditable manner by W. Bro. Burditt and his officers, who also proved themselves to be well skilled in the lecture.

The brethren are full of zeal, and everything betokens a prosperous future for this excellent Lodge. During the past year they have been called to mourn the death of their Master, W. Bro. Daniel R. Haynes, — one who was beloved by his Lodge, and very much respected by the citizens of Leominster.

We feel assured that the memory of his example will be treasured by his brethren "until time shall be no more."

Monday evening, Nov. 13th, visited Aurora Lodge, Fitchburg. We had a large delegation from Wilder Lodge. St. Paul's, Trinity, and Caleb Butler Lodges were also represented. This ancient Lodge is very flourishing; its records have been finely kept, and show a fair amount of work.

After the usual examination of the books and returns, W. Bro. John Burney exemplified the F. C.'s degree. We think a good impression must have been made on the candidate by the manner in which the degree was conferred. R. W. Bro. Jonas A. Marshall officiated as S. D.; and those present will not soon forget how vividly our "Ancient Brethren" seemed to pass be-

fore us as we listened to the Ritual as delivered by our venerable brother.

After the degree was conferred, remarks were made by several of the brethren, which added much to the interest of the occasion.

Tuesday evening, Nov. 14th, visited Hope Lodge, Gardner. A good number of the members were present; also brethren from St. Paul's, Caleb Butler, and Oxford Lodges.

This Lodge was constituted the 3d of May last. It is now presided over by W. Bro. Henry C. Hill, he having been installed as Master the previous evening. The F. C.'s degree was conferred in the most accurate manner. By the fine style in which the work was done, we were reminded of the great praise bestowed on this Lodge by M. W. Bro. Parkman, when he witnessed their exemplification of the M. M.'s degree, about a year since.

The work on this occasion was given with such impressiveness, that it showed a systematic study of the degree on the part of each officer. Even the charge, so often omitted, or carelessly delivered, was so finely impressed on the mind of the candidate, that it must ever be remembered by him with pleasure.

Respectfully submitted, by

E. DANA BANCROFT,

Special D. D. G. M. for Aurora, Wilder, and Hope Lodges.

LOWELL, Nov. 28, 1865.

To the R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON, D. D. G. M. for the Third Masonic District of Massachusetts.

In accordance with your request and authority I have visited Tuscan Lodge at Lawrence, and Saggahew Lodge at Haverhill, and in each have been cordially received as your representative, and have the honor to report:—

Tuscan Lodge, which has been chartered only two years, now has a roll of seventy-seven members, which number has in part been made up by removals from Grecian Lodge; and being located in that rapidly increasing city, is destined to take a high rank among the Lodges of the State. Twenty have been initiated the past year.

The order and decorum of the Lodge is worthy of imitation ; while the prompt, correct, and impressive manner of work is full evidence that the officers were selected with reference to their ability and merit.

At the close of the Lodge a bountiful collation was provided, where a full measure of the social element of our Order was enjoyed.

Saggahew Lodge, now working under dispensation, is in a most prosperous condition. The order of the Lodge, the work, and everything pertaining to it, are of a high character. There will be fifty brethren associated with this Lodge, ready to become members when a charter shall be granted them by the M. W. Grand Lodge, which I most heartily recommend.

Although my visit to this Lodge was made upon a very inclement evening, and some of its members reside at a distance, about forty were present, and all, without exception, remained through the meeting (working two degrees) to the close.

Thanking you for the opportunity you have afforded me for meeting so many of the brethren of other Lodges, in which I have been much gratified,

I remain, yours fraternally,

WILLIAM NORTH.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,
WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — It is with pleasure that I now seat myself for the purpose of making a return to you of my doings as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourth Masonic District. During the year I have visited all the Lodges in this District twice each with the exception of two, and those once each.

I have examined their records and find them all duly kept. I have witnessed the work of the Lodges on the different degrees, and I do think that, in this District, it is done as near to that of the Grand Lodge as it is possible for different individuals to do the same work.

It gives me pleasure to report peace, harmony, and good fellowship throughout this District.

My visits have been rendered exceedingly pleasant by the kind and brotherly manner in which I have been received as your representative.

One new Lodge has been formed in this District this year, namely, Mount Hollis at Holliston. It is in good hands, and doing a fair amount of work.

The following table will show the amount of work done this year as compared with last :—

Lodges.	Location.	Initiates.	
		1884.	1885.
Montgomery	Milford	19	26
Olive Branch	Millbury	16	31
Solomon's Temple	Uxbridge	21	20
Franklin	Grafton	18	10
Blackstone River	Blackstone	11	6
Oxford	Oxford	5	5
Webster	Webster	18	16
John Warren	Hopkinton	18	17
		<u>116</u>	<u>181</u>

I have been applied to for twelve Dispensations during the year, all of which being accompanied by good and sufficient reasons, have been duly granted.

Thanking you for the honor conferred by appointing me District Deputy Grand Master, and the Lodges for the courtesy with which they have received me as your representative,

I remain, very respectfully and fraternally,

HENRY C. SKINNER.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

It is with pleasure I now submit my second annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth Masonic District.

I regret that it was not in my power to perform all of the duties devolving upon me in my official capacity. I therefore authorized W. Bro. Z. L. Bicknell to visit certain Lodges of which he makes mention in his report annexed to this.

The Lodges which I have had the honor to visit are all in a prosperous condition. Harmony and Brotherly Love prevail among them, and although the work is well done in all the Lodges throughout my District, I cannot let this opportunity pass without mentioning in particular Old Colony Lodge of Hingham; other Lodges may have the ritual as perfect, yet I must say that the style in which the work is done in Old Colony Lodge excels anything of the kind I have ever seen, and I very much doubt if it can be surpassed. The credit, I am informed by the members of the Lodge, is chiefly due to the untiring zeal of the present Master, W. Bro. E. Waters Burr, who has seldom let a week pass, for the last four years, without meeting his officers for rehearsal.

The number of initiates in my District for the past year is one hundred and fifty-three; only three less than the previous year, while the number of rejections will exceed any previous year.

In closing this report allow me to return you my sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me, and also to thank the Brethren of the Fifth District for the very flattering and cordial manner in which I have always been received by them.

Very respectfully and fraternally,

JOHN P. LOVELL.

EAST WEYMOUTH, Dec. 26, 1865.

Right Worshipful JOHN P. LOVELL.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In obedience to your commands, I have visited John Cutler Lodge, Abington, Orient, South Dedham, and Blue Hill, South Canton, as your representative. I am pleased to say that these several Lodges are in a prosperous condition. John Cutler and Blue Hill Lodges have not done as much work as might have been expected from their favorable locations, but better too many than too few rejections. Orient Lodge, South Dedham, has initiated twenty-three, the highest number of any Lodge in the District. This Lodge, although young, is under the direction of the right kind of men, and is bound to prosper.

Very respectfully yours,

Z. L. BICKNELL.

E. WYMOUTH, Dec. 23, 1865.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — By your kindness I have the honor to report the condition of the Sixth Masonic District for the third year. Accept my acknowledgments for the confidence you have reposed in me ; and I doubt not it is a source of great satisfaction to you, as it is to me, that the Sixth District is enjoying great peace and prosperity.

The following statistics may be of some value to the Fraternity : —

Lodges.	Location.	No. of Members.	No of Initiates.
Morning Star	Worcester	169	26
Middlesex	Frammingham	47	6
Meridian	Natick	78	19
Mount Zion	Barre	69	9
Trinity	Clinton	64	20
Quaboug	Warren	62	16
Montacute	Worcester	159	41
United Brethren	Marlboro'	68	18
Quinebaug	Southbridge	48	10
Eden	Ware	28	8
Dorie	Feltonville	40	15
Hayden	Brookfield	38	15
		860	203

In addition to the above, there are two Lodges under dispensation,—Athelstane, Worcester, and North Star, Ashland,—making, in all, fourteen Lodges. During the Masonic year just closed, two hundred and three candidates have been initiated, an increase of fifty-seven over the previous year. It does not strike me that this is too rapid a growth when we take into the account the fact that there are twelve Chartered Lodges in the District; and, besides this, I am satisfied, from personal observation, due care is generally exercised in receiving candidates into the lodges. Cases have occurred where brethren are too anxious to press the claims of their particular friends; and here lies all the difficulty. If the brethren are cautious who they recommend, and reasonable when they recommend them, we shall not be overmuch crowded with applicants.

In regard to the work, there has been a marked improvement. Some of the Lodges are doing excellent work; others are still deficient, but they are striving to come up to the standard.

Too many of our Lodges fail to appreciate the beauty and influence of *music*. It is classed among the liberal arts. Why, then, should Masons neglect it? It certainly has a wonderful influence on the human heart. It is like the finishing touch of the artist's brush upon the picture. It brings out the finer feelings of the heart and affections, and prepares the mind to receive those grand moral truths inculcated in our Order. If any of our brethren would like an illustration, let them visit St. Andrew's Lodge some evening. There, music is an *indispensable* part of the work. In

opening, closing, and working the degrees, music is introduced with beautiful effect. Every brother has a book,—the “Masonic Choir,” a new work with music arranged for male voices,—and all “sing most lustily.” In Mt. Lebanon Lodge, a few evenings since, I heard the Scripture lesson in the first degree chanted by four voices delightfully. I could almost say in the language of St. Paul, “Whether in the body or out I could not tell,” it was so transporting. I might refer to other Lodges where music is introduced with equally good effect.

Nearly all of the Lodges have convenient halls for their meetings. The brethren of Middlesex Lodge are erecting a Masonic building, and will soon have a neat and commodious hall that will do credit to that part of the District.

It is with regret that I take my leave of the brethren as their District Deputy. I must, however, express my gratitude for the kind manner they have always received and aided me in my work; and nothing will afford me greater pleasure than to hear of their future prosperity.

Yours most respectfully and fraternally,

J. W. DADMUN, *D. D. G. M. 6th Dist.*

Boston, Dec. 20, 1865.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

*To M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of Masons in
Massachusetts.*

I SUBMIT my report of the Lodges comprising the Seventh District of this Jurisdiction.

Since receiving my appointment from you I have visited each Lodge in the District once, and five of them twice or more. I was in hopes to have had the pleasure of reporting to you a falling off in the amount of work from last year, but find that almost every Lodge has increased the number of initiates,—the number this year being 214, against 185 last year.

I look upon the rush at our doors as truly alarming, and wish each and every brother would endeavor, instead of trying to fill up his Lodge, to restrain candidates from making application. We need, after the labor of the past few years, a breathing spell, a chance to rest from our work, and to arrange and bring into order the many rough ashlar who have been admitted into our Temple without having been duly and truly prepared. I do not speak this of any particular Lodge; but any one who has given the subject a moment's thought must agree with me that we are making members fearfully fast. Lodges are fast becoming mere machines, the sole object of which seems to be taking the raw material and grinding out a very poor article in the shape of a Mason.

But this is not perhaps what is expected of me as a report as Deputy for this District, and I will proceed to give you an idea of the state of the craft so far as I am able.

There are twelve chartered Lodges in the District, two of which were chartered the present year. The work in the different Lodges, with one exception, is very uniform, and in accordance with the work as exemplified by the Grand Lecturers. I wish to say a few words in regard to dispensations, although I am well aware the subject has become threadbare. At the beginning of the year I made up my mind to grant as few as possible; but find, on looking over my book, that I have granted twenty-two, and all for good and sufficient reasons, as set forth in the letters on file.

I think it would be a good plan to charge a fee for dispensations, as it might reduce the number of applications, and anything which tends to that end will be beneficial.

I think a Lodge has no right to receive a petition, *knowing* that a dispensation will be required.

There has been one public gathering of the craft in this District the past year. St. John's Day was celebrated at Myricks, — a central point in the District, — and the meeting was a decided success. About 2,500 people were present, and the time was spent in a social, pleasant manner. The meeting stands adjourned till June 24, 1866. Such meetings are productive of much good and should be of more frequent occurrence so that

members of the institution can meet and become acquainted with each other. The work in the District the past year is as follows, and I also add the number of members :—

Lodges.	Location.	No. of Initiates.	No. of Members.
Saint James	Mansfield	4	29
May Flower	Middleboro	7	40
Pythagoras	Marion	2	85
Pioneer	Somerset	16	63
Bristol	Attleboro	22	79
Eureka	New Bedford	38	128
Mount Hope	Fall River	29	184
Social Harmony	Wareham	9	66
Star in the East	New Bedford	39	262
Saint Albans	Foxboro	11	99
King David	Taunton	38	265
Fellowship	Bridgewater	9	100
		214	1,350

St. James Lodge, Mansfield, is the youngest Lodge in the District, but is well posted in the work, and shows it has had good instruction. I saw the three degrees conferred at my visit, which was well done as could be in the time, which was too short to do full justice to the work or candidates. Records clear, but not full enough for the history of a Masonic Lodge.

May Flower Lodge, Middleboro, has made good progress since receiving its charter, and I am assured by its members that they intend to mark well the words of the Grand Master and allow no bad links to be woven into the *chain* of members. Witnessed work on second degree, which was well done. Records correctly kept, and merit approval.

Pythagorean Lodge, Marion. This is a small Lodge and labors under the disadvantage of not having a regular attendance, many of its members being away from home much of the time ; but I found the true Masonic spirit existing among the few whom I met at my visit. Saw work on the first and third degrees, which showed them correct in essentials, but they need a little instruction to make the work correct in all its particulars. Records good.

Pioneer Lodge, Somerset. This is a thriving Lodge, and I was much pleased with my visit. It is a young Lodge, but has taken a front position as regards work and style of proceeding. I have

rarely seen the degrees conferred in a more impressive manner than in this Lodge. They have a good hall, well furnished, and bid fair to take a high stand in the Masonic field. Records good, and give a good history of the proceedings of the Lodge.

Bristol Lodge, Attleboro. Witnessed work on first degree, and found them well up in the lectures. I think this Lodge has done the most work, in proportion to its members, of any in the District; but I was much pleased with the appearance of its members, as they appeared to be of the right material and metal. I have seldom enjoyed a visit as much as I did to this Lodge. Members were present from Mansfield and Foxboro, and all seemed to feel that it was good to be there. Records correctly kept, and a model for neatness and penmanship.

Eureka Lodge, New Bedford. This is a young Lodge, but a large and thriving one, and is a worthy branch, or offshoot, from Star in the East Lodge. Few Lodges have the advantages of this Lodge to start with, and they have been well improved. A good hall and the experience of older members are of vast benefit to a new Lodge. Saw work on third degree, which was in accordance with Grand Lodge requirements. Records full and clear.

Mount Hope Lodge, Fall River. I have visited this Lodge twice the past year. At one visit saw the third degree conferred, which was done in an impressive manner, but differed somewhat from instructions of Grand Lodge. Since my visit the work has been changed to meet the standard work of Grand Lodge. At my last visit no work was done, it being a Stated Meeting, and the time being taken up with the business of the Lodge. This is a large Lodge, and I think too large under the circumstances, and that a new lodge would be of benefit to the present one and to the Institution. Records good, but too brief in my opinion, as I think a record should be full enough to give those who come after us a correct idea of the history of the Lodge.

Social Harmony Lodge, Wareham. This is the only Lodge in the District that I did not see work in. At the time of my visit, in the early part of the year, it was a Stated Meeting, at which no work was done. Being unable to visit the Lodge this fall, I appointed the Master of Fellowship Lodge to go in my stead, but,

owing to a misunderstanding, there was no meeting that evening ; but I am informed by Brother Churchill that he found the records satisfactory ; and from what has been told me I am confident that the work is correctly done.

Star in the East Lodge, New Bedford. This is one of the old Lodges, and numbers among its members some venerable brothers. I had the pleasure of meeting one of its charter members, who is still an active laborer in the Masonic vineyard.

Lodge worked on first degree, and I have never seen the degree conferred in so solemn and impressive a manner. It well repaid me for my visit, and I wish that every working officer of the Lodges could see the work exemplified in that Lodge. I found here a record kept in a maner which I deem as near perfection as possible. The good old custom of entering the names of members and visitors is kept up, and a full record made of all that takes place in the Lodge. This Lodge and Eureka meet in the same hall, and members of each Lodge are always present at each other's meetings, showing the perfect harmony that exists between them. It was pleasantly said to me, when I first visited New Bedford, that Eureka Lodge was Young America, and Star in the East, Old Foggy ; but I found no lack of vigor in Star in the East, and I wish all Lodges were as conservative as I found Eureka. I am under many obligations to members of both Lodges for favors and assistance during the past year.

St. Alban's Lodge, Foxboro. I witnessed the exemplification of work in first degree, which met my approval as being the work of Grand Lodge. This Lodge has a fine hall, well furnished, a large membership, and should exert a good influence ; but, from some reason, I found a state of feeling existing between this Lodge and St. James which was far from Masonic. I am not able to say which is most at fault, but presume both are somewhat to blame. Both are anxious to become reconciled once more ; and I hope and trust the time will soon come when harmony will once more prevail and the Lodges meet as brethren should always do, and more particularly the two Saints of the District. Records and books well kept, with some little faults which I think Br. Clark will correct.

King David's Lodge, Taunton. The second Lodge in the Dis-

strict as to age, and has many old members, among whom may be counted the venerable Secretary, who will outrank our worthy Grand Secretary, having filled the office for about two-score years. The work in this Lodge is not what it should be, but I was told by the new Master that he would post himself and officers as soon as possible. There is no reason why this Lodge should not be a good working Lodge, as it has a large fund and a good membership. I trust the report for next year will give them credit for doing good work,—square work. The records of Br. Baylies need no comments from me.

Fellowship Lodge, Bridgewater. The oldest Lodge in the District, and kept up its organization through all the dark ages, which the old members, who remain, are fond of referring to as the times which tried them as by fire. I could wish that some one else would report this Lodge as I may not be able to give an impartial judgment for my own Lodge. The work in this Lodge is intended to be Grand Lodge work, and I think the intention is carried out; if not, it is not the fault of the present Master. There are six old members left who stood by the charter in those troublous times, all of whom are honored and honorary members of the Lodge; and that they may be long spared as counsel is my earnest prayer. When the old members have passed from earth we shall lose much that is valuable to us and that can never be restored.

In concluding this report, I would thank the Lodges for their courtesy to me the past year, as I have always been cordially received, and treated with the respect due your representative, and would express my gratitude to you for the honor you were pleased to confer upon me. The duties of a District Deputy are laborious, but I have found it a labor of love, and shall look back to the past year as the *whitest* year of my Masonic life.

Believe me, fraternally yours,

L. W. LOVELL, D. D., 7th District.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

*To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of
Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, —The Eighth Masonic District is one of the largest, if not *the* largest within the Commonwealth, requiring more than one hundred miles travel from one extreme to the other, and to visit all the Lodges, eight in number, is no small task, especially when, with two exceptions, and those near at hand, none can be reached by railroad. But it compensates very much for the labor and weariness of journeying when one is cordially received by the brethren, finds everything prosperous, and in his annual report can “tell of their labors through the year” with satisfaction to himself and with credit to all concerned. And such I am happy to say has been my reward, and is now my pleasant privilege in reporting to you as required by the Constitution of Masonry.

During the past year I have visited officially every Lodge within this jurisdiction, and I have not only been welcomed in each and all with the utmost fraternal kindness and cordiality, but never since I have been honored with the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master, have I witnessed a deeper and more active interest in Masonry, a higher appreciation of the worth of the institution, or more of harmony and good fellowship among the brethren than exists at the present time.

There has been the past year increased attention given to the attainment of greater perfection in the work, as prescribed by the Grand Lodge, and the good results are seen in the fact, that there is no Lodge whose work is not very much improved, while that of some is most excellent.

The whole number of initiates the past year is one hundred and fifty-nine, viz. : —Marine, four ; Union, eleven ; Martha's Vineyard, nineteen ; Fraternal, twenty-eight ; Pilgrim, twenty-one ; Mount Horeb, twenty-two ; De Witt Clinton, nine ; and King Hiram, forty-five. What I cannot but fear may ultimately prove

injurious to the institution of Masonry still exists, though not to the same extent, perhaps, as during the previous two or three years, and that is, receiving so many to the privileges of the Order. My apprehensions may be groundless. I hope they will prove so; but it is a law I believe which has few, if any exceptions, that rapid growth is followed by rapid decay.

Masonry, as I understand it, was never intended to become general as regards numbers; but to be confined to a comparatively few, and those the best fitted in character and tastes to receive its light, and to become *living* stones in its temple. I have therefore felt it my duty to continue to urge upon the brethren not to be over-anxious to multiply their numbers; to exercise the utmost caution in the reception of candidates, and to admit none who are morally unqualified, or who, they have reason to believe, are prompted by motives of curiosity, and who will make nothing more than *dead* Masons, taking little or no interest in Masonry, and seldom, if ever, attending the meetings of the Lodge after they have received the degrees.

King Hiram Lodge of Provincetown, it will be seen, has done a very large amount of work the past year; and were the candidates all taken from its own immediate community, it might justly excite suspicion, either that some improper influence had been exerted to increase their numbers, or that their standard of qualifications was, at least, no higher than it should be. But such is very far from being the case. No small portion of the candidates are residents of the neighboring town of Wellfleet, some twenty miles distant, where preliminary steps are being taken to procure a Dispensation for a new Lodge for the better accommodation of the brethren in that vicinity.

Some three months since several members of Fraternal Lodge, residing in Barnstable proper, applied for and received, as you are aware, a Dispensation for a new Lodge in that village. They held frequent meetings for instruction, and from the zeal and determination manifested in perfecting themselves in the ritual, I have no doubt they will succeed in becoming an excellent working Lodge. Fraternal Lodge is large, numbering one hundred and seventy-three members, and though they would be glad to have these worthy brothers continue their connection with them, yet

still leaving a large Lodge, they cheerfully consent to have them go, and most heartily wish them prosperity and success in their undertaking.

The brethren of Mount Horeb Lodge, West Harwich, are erecting a temple, which for size, convenience, and finish, exceeds anything of the kind within the limits of this District. It is to be completed and dedicated in December, and reflects great credit upon them, both for their enterprise, and for their liberality and devotion to the interests of the Masonic institution.

In conclusion, permit me to tender to you my sincere thanks for the honor of the appointment I have held under your administration as W. Grand Master the past three years, and for the kindly, fraternal spirit which has ever been manifested in our official intercourse. Sincerely wishing you continued health, peace and prosperity,

I am, truly and fraternally yours,

R. S. POPE, *D. D. G. M. 8th Masonic Dist.*

HAUNNIS, November 18, 1865.

NINTH DISTRICT.

M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — Accompanying the annual statistical returns of the work of the Lodges in this the Ninth Masonic District, for the past year, it will be expected that I give you a brief report of the general condition of the same.

I have personally visited all the Lodges in the District during the year, all but two or three of them more than once, and some of them several times, and my visits have been rendered very pleasant by the kind and courteous manner in which, as your representative, I have been received in each of them.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, I

have examined the Charters, By-Laws and Records of every Lodge, and witnessed work in one or more of the Degrees in every Lodge but Day Spring, which at the time of my visit had no place of meeting, their hall having been burned. I am happy to say that with scarcely an exception, the Records have been well kept, and the work admirably done, and in conformity to that prescribed by the Grand Lodge. I believe that this District will compare favorably with any in the State in this respect. I have never seen any work which excelled in accuracy, impressiveness, and beauty, that which I have witnessed this Fall in some of these Lodges; but where all do so well it would be invidious to particularize.

Peace and harmony prevail throughout the Lodges; the officers are almost universally well informed as to their duties, and take great pains to perform them faithfully; the only emulation seeming to exist among them, being that noble one of "who best can work and best agree."

I have found the Lodges all in a prosperous, and most of them in a very flourishing condition. I have taken especial pains, both in the present and past years, to caution them against admitting any but the really worthy and meritorious; have urged upon them the importance of investigating committees being thorough in their inquiries and full in their reports, and the members to be unprejudiced, conscientious, and judicious in the exercise of their right in voting upon the application of candidates. I can but think, from the returns and my own knowledge, that due inquiry has generally been made into the character of applicants, and a good degree of discretion exercised in the use of the ballot. And yet I can but feel that there is still altogether too much tendency to open too broad the doors of our institution and lower the standard of fitness for membership.

There has been, notwithstanding these cautions, quite an increase of work and membership over any previous year. The number of initiations in the District in 1860 was eighty-six; since which time there has been a steady yearly increase till in the year just closed, the number was one hundred and ninety-five.

The whole amount of dues from the Chartered Lodges in the District to the Grand Lodge for the year, was \$651, of which

\$30 from Day Spring Lodge, Monson, was by vote of the Grand Lodge remitted, in consideration of their severe loss by fire. The balance, \$621, I have paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and have his receipt for the same.

The following table will show the work of the Lodges during the past year as compared with the previous one, the present membership, and the date of the official visit :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.		Members.	Official Visit.
		1864.	1865.		
Cincinnatus . .	Great Barrington . .	12	12	. . .	November 8.
Evening Star . .	Lee	8	14	. . .	November 15.
Lafayette . . .	North Adams . . .	15	30	. . .	November 13.
Thomas	Palmer	15	5	. . .	October 30.
Wisdom	West Stockbridge . .	12	11	. . .	October 28.
Mystic	Pittsfield	18	21	. . .	November 14.
Hampden . . .	Springfield	58	48	. . .	October 31.
Mount Moriah . .	Westfield	27	15	. . .	November 1.
Berkshire . . .	South Adams	8	10	. . .	November 6.
Day Spring . . .	Monson	11	8	. . .	October 30.
Roswell Lee . . .	Springfield		21	. . .	November 9.
Total		179	195	1237	

Roswell Lee Lodge, which at time of last report was under Dispensation, has since been Chartered, and has, both while under Dispensation and since, been making rapid growth, and already exceeds in membership some of the older Lodges.

Day Spring Lodge at Monson, during the summer suffered the loss of its hall by fire, everything being consumed except its Charter. This Lodge has been in operation but little more than three years, is located in a country village, and has not a large membership; but not disheartened by this disaster, it is rising, Phoenix like, from the ashes, and the brethren have already in process of completion a new hall of very fine proportion, that when finished will hardly be equalled in the District.

United Lodge, which has been under Dispensation at Huntington, had its Lodge room and entire contents burned early in the year, and after careful consideration, decided, in view of the circumstances, — several changes having taken place since the Dispensation was issued, — that it was not advisable to go on, and so returned its Dispensation.

Applications for Dispensations for conferring degrees have been somewhat frequent, though not so numerous as for two years before. Where the application was only for shortening the time between degrees with a candidate who had been regularly elected, and apparent good reasons for the request were presented, I have granted them; but in only one instance, and that one of seeming necessity, which I subsequently consulted you about, and received your approval of my action, have I given any authority beyond this.

This is briefly a statement of the general condition of the Lodges, work, &c., in the Ninth District for the year past; and having thus rendered an account of my stewardship, which I trust will be satisfactory to you, and thanking you for your renewed token of confidence in conferring upon me the honor of a second reappointment, I remain, with great respect,

Yours fraternally,

HENRY CHICKERING, *D. D. G. M. 9th Dist.*

TENTH DISTRICT.

To the M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In conformity with my duty I herewith briefly present you with my report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Tenth Masonic District.

All the Lodges in the District I have visited officially, and many of them several times informally. It has been my object to thoroughly inspect the work of the several Lodges, and, when practicable, to listen to a rehearsal of the lectures of the several degrees, and I am happy to state that in nearly all of the Lodges the degrees are conferred with much impressiveness and accuracy.

I deem it unnecessary to specify each particular Lodge in the District, and will merely state that in no Lodge has there

appeared a lack of promptness of its officers ; and the few deviations from our ritual would be corrected by the aid of a Grand Lecturer in a short time.

All the corrections to which I have called attention have been kindly received, and I have the assurance of all that a strict adherence to the ritual, as sanctioned by the Grand Lodge, will be observed.

The records I have also found correctly and carefully kept, as a general thing. Owing to the increased amount of work in the several Lodges, the labors and responsibilities of the Secretaries are also greatly increased, so that now the office of Secretary is in reality one of the most responsible positions in a Lodge ; but, from personal observation, I am happy to state that in this District, with hardly an exception, the Secretaries have faithfully performed their duties.

It also gives me pleasure to say that all the Lodges in this District are enjoying a season of harmony and prosperity. Great care seems to be taken in the admission of members, and the interests of the Lodges are confided to worthy, able, and reliable brethren.

I cannot close this report without alluding to the death of our worthy Brother GEORGE F. WRIGHT, a Past Master of Jerusalem Lodge, Northampton, a zealous, influential, and beloved member of our order. His death occurred on the 16th of November, and occasioned a deep and sincere sadness and mourning among the entire community. On the day of his becoming of "lawful age" he made application for the degrees in Masonry ; and, immediately after becoming a Master Mason, became an officer in Jerusalem Lodge. Passing from one station to another, he filled each position with credit to himself and the entire satisfaction of his brethren. He has ever been a friend to the friendless, and these will most sincerely mourn his loss. In 1847, the second day after becoming of age, he was appointed a deputy sheriff, in the duties of which position he continued in the active and uninterrupted discharge till his last illness. He also held other and important offices under the Government, all of which he discharged with singular fidelity and exactness. He was eminently a *worker*. The *servency* and zeal with which he prosecuted business did not even

allow him that measure of rest which nature imperatively demands. He possessed a noble and generous spirit, and kindness of heart much beyond the average of men. No one of the poor and humble, as well as the rich and influential, ever applied to him in vain for words of sympathy or an act of kindness. His age was thirty-nine years. Although he died thus early, he probably accomplished more *real work* than most men even should they live a century. He was an exemplary member of the Unitarian church, and, knowing him as we did, confidently believe that "his soul will bloom in eternal spring." His funeral was held at the first Congregational Church, on Sunday, the 19th ult., — no other in town being of sufficient size to accommodate those of our citizens who wished to pay their last tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased brother. The usual Masonic ceremonies at the grave.

Finally, dear sir, please accept my thanks for the honor conferred on me by the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master for the Tenth Masonic District the present year.

Yours fraternally,

DAVID W. CRAFTS,

Dist. Dep. Grand Master 10th Masonic Dist.

NORTHAMPTON, Dec. 1865.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

To M. W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, Grand Master.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have made due return of the doings of the Lodges in the Eleventh Masonic District during the past year.

The condition of the fraternity in this District has relieved me from the duty of supervision and from all sense of official responsibility; and each of my visits has been simply the occasion of cordial and hospitable intercourse among the brethren.

The Lodges in this District are increasing in the best form of Masonic growth and prosperity. They are, without exception, faithful both to the letter and to the spirit of Masonic requirement. They constitute a noble group in the jurisdiction over which you preside.

With many thanks for the appointment, which, while it has conferred on me great honor, has in equal measure imparted pleasure,

I remain most faithfully and fraternally,

WILLIAM E. PARMENTER,

Dist. Dep. Grand Master 11th Masonic Dist.

WEST CAMBRIDGE, Dec. 13, 1865.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

*To WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., M. W. Grand Master of Massachusetts
Free and Accepted Masons.*

As District Deputy Grand Master for the Twelfth Masonic District, I have the honor to submit this my third Annual Official Report.

During the past year I have been called upon officially to perform very little duty beyond that appertaining to the regular annual visitations, except the granting of a few dispensations for the conferring of degrees out of course. The applications for these dispensations have been comparatively very few, and I have not hesitated to grant them.

The annual visitations to the several Lodges in my district were all made during the months of October and November. Except in a single instance, these visitations were made by me personally, attended by a deputation from the M. W. Grand Lodge. In the instance referred to, being unable myself to be present at the time assigned for the visitation to St. Paul's Lodge in South Boston, and being unwilling to subject the Lodge to the

inconvenience of a special meeting for that purpose, I deputed Bro. Theodore H. Emmons, W. Master of St. John's Lodge, to officiate for me on that occasion; and I am happy to say that Bro. Emmons discharged the duty with very great fidelity, and to the entire acceptance of St. Paul's Lodge. To him, as well as to several other distinguished brethren, who kindly accompanied me on my several visits, and materially aided me in the performance of my official duties, I feel under many obligations, and desire in this connection publicly to express my grateful acknowledgments.

The following table, compiled from the annual returns of the several Lodges in my district, will show at a glance the condition of those Lodges at the close of the past Masonic year:—

Name and Location of Lodge.	Number of Members.	Date of Visitation.	Amount Paid to Grand Lodge.	Number of Initiates the past year.	Number of Rejections the past year.	Amount received for Initiation Fee.	Total amount of Cash received.
Columbian, Boston . . .	286	Oct. 5	\$6.00	88	9	\$114.00	\$120.00
Washington, Roxbury . .	187	" 12	6.00	36	19	108.00	114.00
Mount Olivet, Cambridge .	65	" 19	6.00	16	8	48.00	54.00
Germania, Boston . . .	76	" 23	6.00	18	4	54.00	60.00
Joseph Warren, Boston . .	187	" 24	6.00	49	20	147.00	153.00
Union, Dorchester . . .	145	" 31	6.00	46	10	138.00	144.00
Dalhousie, Newton . . .	100	Nov. 1	6.00	25	8	75.00	81.00
Amicable, Cambridge . . .	188	" 2	6.00	44	13	132.00	138.00
St. Paul's, South Boston . .	189	" 7	6.00	51	16	153.00	159.00
Gate of the Temple, So. Bost.	135	" 9	6.00	41	12	128.00	129.00
Aberdour, Boston . . .	54	" 15	6.00	10	1	30.00	36.00
Massachusetts, Boston . .	188	" 20	6.00	44	21	132.00	138.00
	1,800		\$72.00	418	151	\$1,254.00	\$1,326.00

It will be perceived by the foregoing table, that the district over which I have the honor to preside is one of the largest and most important within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge; and in the number of affiliated members, number of initiates for the past year, and amount of revenue paid into the treasury, considerably exceeds those of any other district in the State; and it affords me the greatest pleasure to report that the several Lodges are in a high state of prosperity; that harmony and gen-

eral good feeling exists among the brethren ; and that the specimens of work exhibited by the several Lodges on the occasion of my official visits were generally of a superior character, and many of them such as I have never seen surpassed.

Where all are entitled to commendation, it would, in my judgment, be out of place in this report to mention the name of any particular Lodge or Lodges as surpassing others in the excellence of their workmanship. Still, I may be permitted to remark, without doing injustice to other Lodges, that of the many Masonic degrees I have seen conferred, I have never witnessed one conferred so perfectly, with so much grace and effect, and with such perfect attention to the utmost detail of the work, as was the third degree in one of the Lodges in my district, on the occasion of my annual official visitation. It was witnessed by nearly or quite four hundred brethren, most, if not all of whom, I doubt not, will concur with me in the opinion, that the high compliment bestowed upon the Lodge and its officers, by the District Deputy Grand Master officially, at the close of the ceremonies, was fully deserved. The matter is alluded to in this connection, not for the purpose of further complimenting the Lodge referred to, but to enable me to repeat in substance what I said upon this subject in my last annual report, and to again express the hope that all our Lodges throughout the entire jurisdiction may be deeply impressed with the importance of a strict attention to every detail of the work, and thus emulate each other in their endeavors to give the greatest possible effect to every degree conferred, so that the brethren who witness, as well as the candidate who receives, may have the full benefit of the lessons these degrees are intended to teach.

In my official visitations I have found much to commend, and but little to censure. I have in several instances specially complimented the Secretary of a Lodge for the very beautiful and accurate manner in which his records were kept ; and I deem this matter of sufficient importance to be referred to in this report. The records of a Lodge are not for the present generation alone, but for posterity. It is to be hoped that they will exist long after all who now form the subject of them, — all, “from the Worshipful Master in the east, down to the youngest entered apprentice

who stands in the north-east corner of the Lodge," — shall have passed to that "*Celestial Lodge above*;" and therefore, in my judgment, those records should be kept with the utmost care in every particular, in a fair, round hand, free from scratch, blot, or interlineation, and with reliable marginal references. The records of two or three of the Lodges in my district as kept the past year, are models in these particulars, — one especially elicited my warmest commendation, which I did not hesitate to express in open Lodge. One or two others, however, exhibited something of haste or carelessness in their making-up, and ought to be improved. I mention this in the hope that Secretaries of Lodges may be reminded of the great importance attached to this part of their official duty, and to suggest that Masters of Lodges, as well as Secretaries, are bound to see to it that records intended for posterity are not prepared hastily, carelessly, or in a slovenly manner.

I have before remarked that *general* good feeling exists among the brethren in my District, and that, in my official visitations, I found *little* to censure. Without explanation, these expressions might be misconstrued; but I cannot, with truth, say that the utmost harmony prevails, or that I found nothing to censure, and therefore Most Worshipful Grand Master permit me thus to explain.

One of the Lodges in the Twelfth District, — and I may say one of the most ancient and venerable in the Commonwealth, with a record, and a history, and a charter of which she is and ought to be justly proud, and which every one of her members should venerate and cherish in his heart of hearts, — has suffered herself (temporarily, I trust) to swerve from the strict line of Masonic duty. Members, as well as officers, have allowed themselves to divide upon questions of an outside political or moral character, or both, to such an extent as to seriously affect the workings of the Lodge and its usefulness as a Masonic Institution; and the result has been that some of the best men in the community, who have been proposed for the degrees by both parties, men "of good report and well recommended," have been rejected for no other reasons than those arising from the outside controversy above alluded to: and thus there has been a want of harmony in this

particular Lodge, and in this Lodge only ; and this, and this only, have I felt compelled in my official capacity to censure and rebuke in the strongest possible terms.

Questions which agitate the community at large upon matters of politics, religion, or upon any other subject upon which good and true men honestly differ in opinion, should never be brought within the sacred portals of a Masonic Lodge. In fact, this is expressly forbidden by our laws and rules, and that Mason who allows himself or his actions, within his Lodge, to be governed or regulated by any such outside considerations, expressly violates his Masonic obligations, and should himself be expelled from the Order. And the moment a Lodge, as a body, suffers itself to be governed or controlled by any such considerations, it ceases to be a Masonic institution ; and, however ancient or venerable its character may be, or however honorable its previous history, unless it returns at once to its strict line of duty, should be required forthwith to surrender its charter to the Grand Lodge.

I make these remarks from a strict sense of duty, and not from any feelings other than those of deep sorrow towards the Lodge in question, among whose officers and members are many of my most cherished personal friends. But the institution of Freemasonry in this community ought not, and must not, be jeopardized by such proceedings as I have referred to without an admonition from the proper source, and that source is the Grand Master or his official representative. This admonition has been given, and I cannot but hope that not only this Lodge, but all others may hereafter be governed solely by the strict laws and rules of our Order, so that no official representative of the Grand Master may hereafter have occasion to report otherwise than that *entire* harmony prevails among the brotherhood, with everything to commend, and *nothing* to censure.

In closing this my final report, and with it my official connection with you, allow me, Most Worshipful Grand Master, to tender to you my most sincere thanks for the confidence you have personally as well as officially reposed in me as your official representative in the Twelfth District during the past three years, and also for the honor conferred by that high position. The duty devolving upon me I have endeavored to discharge conscientiously

and to the best of my ability. My intercourse with the several Lodges in the District has been to me a source of the greatest pleasure. I have received from the brethren nothing but kindness, courtesy, and generous hospitality. The utmost loyalty to the distinguished Body over which you preside has at all times been expressed by the officers and brethren of each of the Lodges, as well as the most profound respect for yourself personally and officially. And now, after having administered our Masonic affairs in this Commonwealth during three years of success, unparalleled in the history of the Order, you are about to retire from the elevated position you have so long and so faithfully occupied, permit me most heartily to congratulate you that you still remain in the full possession and enjoyment of the esteem and confidence of the entire Masonic fraternity; and also that in placing in the hands of your successor the emblem of authority appertaining to his office, you may, with truth, assure him that you thus surrender the trust committed to your charge, with the proud consciousness that the Order of Freemasonry throughout the entire jurisdiction is now in the very zenith of its prosperity and usefulness. I am, dear sir and brother,

Most respectfully and fraternally yours,

N. A. THOMPSON,

Dist. Dep. Gr. Master, 12th Masonic Dist.

BOSTON, Dec. 15, 1865.

FRATERNAL ARMY LODGE, No. 4.

WORCESTER, November 28, 1865.

WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., *M. W. Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.*

SIR, — I have the honor to return herewith the Dispensation of Fraternal Army Lodge, No. 4, Twenty-Fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, together with a transcript of the records of the Lodge for the years 1864–5, also the annual return of the

Lodge for the years above named, and an account of receipts and disbursements during the four years I have held the Dispensation.

I take this occasion to express my thanks to those who have reposed such confidence in me.

The communications of Fraternal Army Lodge have been the source of much pleasure, and I trust profit to members of our honored fraternity, who have from various sections of the country, from time to time been permitted to participate in our ceremonies, and enjoy each other's society as Masons. I firmly believe that no one thing has done so much to unite men in North Carolina who were in rebellion against our government and those who were contending for the right, as Masonry.

Many items of interest have come under my personal observation which go to establish the advantages of Masonry.

The delay in the returns for 1864 was occasioned by the brother who brought them North overlooking them for nearly a year.

Please accept my acknowledgment of the kind expressions of interest and encouragement which has occasionally reached me through your communications, and believe me,

Truly and fraternally, your obedient servant,

J. B. KNOX.

BUNKER HILL ARMY LODGE, No. 5.

WILLIAM PARKMAN, Esq., *M. W. Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.*

SIR, — I have the honor to return to you the Dispensation granted in 1861 to the brethren therein named, and committed to George H. Gordon, then Colonel of the Second Regiment of Massachusetts Infantry. That regiment having been mustered out of service, after over four years' of honorable history, the time of this Dispensation expires.

In behalf of the brethren remaining, I thank you for the trust committed to us, and assure you that it has been the source of great pleasure and profit.

I surrender also the records. Their imperfect state is due to the fact that the first Secretary, Capt. Edward G. Abbott, was killed at Cedar Mountain; and his acting successor, Surgeon William H. Heath, died in front of Atlanta of disease contracted in the faithful and untiring discharge of his duty. His minutes I have copied and attested.

Of the history of this Lodge, I take the liberty to make the following statements:—

Speedily after the receipt of the Dispensation, Colonel Gordon assumed his office as Master, with the Wardens named, Chaplain Alonzo H. Quint, Senior Warden; Major Wilder Dwight, Junior Warden. Measures were taken to perfect the officers and members in the work, in which the Lodge accurately followed the practice of the best Lodges at home. Members at home occasionally procured the best instruction; and the work I think was strictly correct.

The necessary furniture was procured, and all the fixtures as well secured as army life would allow. In the winter of 1861-2, the Lodge at Frederick, Md., kindly allowed us the use of their rooms, of which, however, we availed ourselves but once. In that winter, Charles Wheaton, Jr. (Adjutant), and Lieutenant Charles R. Mudge and Lieutenant Robert B. Brown, were received as Entered Apprentices, and passed to the degree of Fellow-Craft. Lieut. Wheaton leaving the regiment he did not proceed further; I trust that the Grand Master will authorize any Lodge to continue the work in his case when he shall have returned. Lieut. Mudge fell as Lieutenant-Colonel commanding at Gettysburg. Lieut. Brown subsequently was raised to the degree of Master Mason.

In the winter of 1861-2, much brotherly intercourse was had with other brethren. On St. John's day, the Lodge in Frederick held a public installation, and our Lodge formed a part of the large procession. The Senior Warden, Chaplain of the Second, was invited to and did deliver an address in the Lutheran Church, which was well filled, upon "Masonry and the State." A copy was asked for publication, but the speaker felt too diffident of its merits to consent. The banquet which followed was attended by over five hundred Masons.

In that army corps, after consultation, a committee of relief was instituted; upon which the Senior Warden had the honor to serve as one of the seven in connection with Major-General Banks, Colonel Murphy of Pennsylvania, and others.

The active campaign which followed prevented meetings. The promotion of Colonel Gordon to be Brigadier-General removed him from the regiment, and the Senior Warden assumed the care of the Lodge, in which he remained. The working strength of the Lodge was greatly reduced by the removal of Colonel Gordon, the resignation of his commission by Captain Tucker, the promotion and removal of Captain Underwood to the Thirty-Third Massachusetts, the fall of Captain Abbott at Cedar Mountain, the wound and resignation for disability of Surgeon Leland, and the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel Dwight at Antietam. But two of the original eight remained.

But, in the winter of 1863-4, in Tennessee, the Lodge again prosecuted its work. Other Masons in the regiment assisted, and the approval and the kind interest of the Grand Master were felt. Suitable accommodations were had, and the Lodge became a centre of great interest. John F. George, Charles W. Thomas, James W. Cook, Edward A. Phalen, Theodore K. Parker, and Nathan D. A. Sawyer, were severally received, passed, and raised.

The Lodge was temporarily organized thus: the Senior Warden as Master; Bro. A. D. Sawyer (Lieut.), S. W.; Bro. James Francis (Major), J. W.; Bro. W. H. Heath (Surgeon), Secretary and Treasurer; Bro. R. B. Brown (Capt.), S. D.; Bro. Whitney (Capt.), J. D.; Bro. Miles (Sergeant), and Bro. A. W. Mann (Lieut.), Tyler.

Great numbers of visitors were habitually present. The care of rigid examination was thoroughly performed, with much labor. Generals and enlisted men met together, not only with no detriment to discipline, but to its advantage. Masons of low military position were only the more careful to show due respect to their brethren in higher stations in the daily routine of duty. As an illustration of the extent of visiting, on one evening I noticed present brethren from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, District of

Columbia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Colorado, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia. Citizens as well as soldiers were visitors ; and it is evident, that in the work of harmonizing the country, Masonry has a powerful mission to fulfil.

The active campaign which followed, never ceasing until Sherman's army was at Washington, forbade all effort to meet as a Lodge.

The intercourse with Masonic brethren was always good. Masons were found to give a brotherly welcome everywhere. The intercourse, even with enemies, was never in the slightest degree prejudicial to loyalty ; yet it proved often valuable. The courtesies and helps to prisoners, and to wounded men, were often touching. The hand of the wounded on the field of battle felt a safeguard even from those just before in conflict, when it found a brother ; and the wounded prisoner on the operating-table felt relieved when he knew that a brother's hand held the knife of the surgeon.

Of those eight, originally mentioned in the Dispensation, I will recapitulate, with those who were subsequently under the Craft's care :—

Col. Gordon became Brevet Major-General ; Chaplain Quint left service in Georgia by the advice of the Surgeon ; Lieutenant-Colonel Dwight fell at Antietam, nobly ; Captain Tucker resigned ; Surgeon Leland wounded at Cedar Mountain, and resigned ; Capt. Underwood, maimed for life at Wauhatchie, became Brevet Major-General ; Lieutenant Sawyer resigned, from ill health, in front of Atlanta ; Captain Abbott was killed at Cedar Mountain,—a brave soldier.

Of those who received degrees,—Lieutenant-Colonel Mudge fell at Gettysburg, bravely leading his men ; Lieutenant Wheaton is still in service ; Captain Brown served with gallantry until the close of the war. Of the other five, four have been wounded.

Of other Masons working with us, Surgeon Heath died of disease in front of Atlanta,—a true and noble man. I believe that none of the enlisted men were wounded ; except that George H. Ide, a fellow-craft (though not sitting with the Lodge), was killed at Cedar Mountain.

The lamented Shaw, then a Captain in the Second, had

expressed his determination to offer himself at the first opportunity; but he left to take that position in which he fell at Wagner.

Accompanying this report, will be forwarded to the proper official the fees due. Other funds have been used in assisting needy brethren; and some help was also rendered to a poor widow and large family of fatherless and suffering children in Georgia; that her husband had fallen in the Confederate army did not seem a reason why assistance should hesitate.

With assurance of gratitude for the interest and care of the Grand Master,

I have the honor to be fraternally yours,

ALONZO H. QUINT,

(Late Chaplain Second Mass. Inf.) Senior Warden.

LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF

THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,

ACCORDING TO DISTRICTS.

First District.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX, BOSTON.

ST. JOHN'S, Boston (1788).	BAALEBEC, East Boston (1858).
ST. ANDREW'S, Boston (1766).	WINSLOW LEWIS, Boston (1866).
MOUNT LEBANON, Boston (1801).	REVERE, Boston (1857).
BETHESDA, Brighton (1819).	PEQUOSSETTE, Watertown (1857).
MONITOR, Waltham (1820).	HAMMATT, East Boston (1860).
MOUNT TABOR, East Boston (1846).	BELMONT, Belmont (1865).

Second District.

R. W. GEORGE A. PIERSON, SALEM.

PHILANTHROPIC, Marblehead (1760).	LIBERTY, Beverly (1824).
ST. JOHN'S, Newburyport (1766).	ASHLER, Rockport (1852).
TYRIAN, Gloucester (1770).	AMITY, Danvers (1864).
ESSEX, Salem (1779).	STAR KING, Salem (1864).
ST. MARK'S, Newburyport (1808).	JOHN T. HEARD, Ipswich (1865).
MOUNT CARMEL, Lynn (1805).	GOLDEN FLEECE, Lynn (1865).
JORDAN, South Danvers (1808).	ACACIA, Gloucester (U.D.).
WARREN, Amesbury (1822).	

Third District.**R. W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, LAWRENCE.**

ST. PAUL'S, Groton (1797).	CALEB BUTLER, South Groton.
CORINTHIAN, Concord (1797).	WILDER, Leominster (1860).
AURORA, Fitchburg (1801).	JOHN HANCOCK, Methuen (1861).
MERRIMAC, Haverhill (1802).	TUSCAN, Lawrence (1863).
PENTUCKET, Lowell (1807).	HOPE, Gardner (1864).
ST. MATTHEW'S, Andover (1822).	SAGGAHEW, Haverhill (1865).
GRECIAN, Lawrence (1825).	ARTISAN, Winchenden (U.D.).
ANCIENT YORK, Lowell (1858).	CHAS. W. MOORE, Fitchburg (U.D.).

Fourth District.**R. W. H. C. SKINNER, MILFORD.**

MONTGOMERY, Milford (1797).	BLACKSTONE RIVER, Blackstone (1856).
OLIVE BRANCH, Sutton (1797).	OXFORD, Oxford (1860).
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, Uxbridge (1818).	JOHN WARREN, Hopkinton (1861).
FRANKLIN, Grafton (1852).	MOUNT HOLLIS, Holliston (1865).
WEBSTER, Webster (1858).	

Fifth District.**R. W. JONATHAN R. GAY, STOUGHTON.**

OLD COLONY, Hingham (1792).	PAUL REVERE, North Bridgewater (1857).
RISING STAR, Stoughton (1799).	JOHN CUTLER, Abington (1860).
CORNER STONE, Duxbury (1801).	ORIENT, South Dedham (1862).
RURAL, Quincy (1801).	BLUE HILL, Canton (1864).
NORFOLK UNION, Randolph (1819).	HYDE PARK, Dorchester (U.D.).
ORPHANS' HOPE, Weymouth (1825).	KONOHASSETT, Cohasset (U.D.).
PLYMOUTH, Plymouth (1825).	

Sixth District.**R. W. A. A. BURDITT, CLINTON.**

MORNING STAR, Worcester (1798).	UNITED BRETHREN, Marlboro (1859).
MIDDLESEX, Framingham (1795).	QUINEBAUG, Southbridge (1859).
MERIDIAN, Natick (1797).	EDEN, Ware (1864).
MOUNT ZION, Barre (1800).	DORIC, Feltonville (1864).
MONTACUTE, Worcester (1858).	HAYDEN, Brookfield (1864).
TRINITY, Clinton (1859).	NORTH STAR, Ashland (1865).
QUABOAG, Warten (1859).	ATHELSTANE, Worcester (U.D.).

Seventh District.**R. W. JOHN B. BAYLIES, NEW BEDFORD.**

FELLOWSHIP, Bridgewater (1797).	MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Tisbury (1860).
BRISTOL, Attleboro (1797).	PYTHAGORAS, Marion (1863).
KING DAVID, Taunton (1798).	PIONEER, Somerset (1864).
ST. ALBAN'S, Foxboro (1818).	MAYFLOWER, Middleboro (1864).
STAR IN THE EAST, New Bedford (1823).	ST. JAMES, Mansfield (1864).
MOUNT HOPE, Fall River (1824).	ALFRED BAYLIES, Taunton (U.D.).
EUREKA, New Bedford (1858).	KING PHILIP, Fall River (U.D.).

Eighth District.**R. W. REV. R. S. POPE, HYANNIS.**

UNION, Nantucket (1771).	DE WITT CLINTON, Sandwich (1856).
KING HIRAM, Provincetown (1795).	PILGRIM, South Harwich (1859).
MARINE, Falmouth (1798).	SOCIAL HARMONY, Wareham (1863).
FRATERNAL, Hyannis (1801).	JAMES OTIS, Barnstable (U.D.).
MT. HOREB, West Harwich (1855).	ADAMS, Wellfleet (U.D.).

Ninth District.**R. W. HENRY CHICKERING, PITTSFIELD.**

CINCINNATUS, G. Barrington (1795).	HAMPDEN, Springfield (1817).
EVENING STAR, Lee (1795).	MOUNT MORIAH, Westfield (1856).
LAFAYETTE, North Adams (1796).	BERKSHIRE, South Adams (1858).
THOMAS, Palmer (1796).	DAY SPRING, Monson (1863).
WISDOM, West Stockbridge (1808).	ROSWELL LEE, Springfield (1864).
MYSTIC, Pittsfield (1810).	

Tenth District.**R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, NORTHAMPTON.**

REPUBLICAN, Greenfield (1794).	BETHEL, Enfield (1825).
HARMONY, Northfield (1796).	CHICOPEE, Chicopee (1849).
JERUSALEM, Northampton (1797).	MOUNT TOM, Holyoke (1850).
PACIFIC, Amherst (1801).	ORANGE, Orange (1860).
MOUNTAIN, Shelburne Falls (1806).	STAR, Athol (1865).

Eleventh District.**R. W. S. O. DEARBORN, MELROSE.**

KING SOLOMON, Charlestown (1788).	WYOMING, Melrose (1857).
HIRAM, West Cambridge (1797).	MOUNT VERNON, Malden (1858).
STAR OF BETHLEHEM, Chelsea (1844).	JOHN ABBOT, Somerville (1858).
PUTNAM, East Cambridge (1855).	HENRY PRICE, Charlestown (1859).
MOUNT HERMON, Medford (1855).	DALHOUSIE, Newtonville (1861).
MOUNT HOREB, Woburn (1856).	WM. PARKMAN, Winchester (1865).

Twelfth District.**R. W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON, BOSTON.**

MASSACHUSETTS, Boston (1770).	GATE OF TEMPLE, S. Boston (1856).
COLUMBIAN, Boston (1796).	JOSEPH WARREN, Boston (1857).
WASHINGTON, Roxbury (1796).	ABERDOUR, Boston (1862).
UNION, Dorchester (1796).	MT. OLIVET, Old Cambridge (1864).
AMICABLE, Cambridgeport (1805).	ELEUSIS, Boston (1865).
ST. PAUL'S, South Boston (1847).	LAFAYETTE, Roxbury (U.D.).
GERMANIA, Boston (1855).	ADELPHI, South Boston (U.D.).

GEORGE H. KENDALL, DEPUTY FOR CHILI, S.A.

BETHESDA, Valparaiso, South America (1854).	HIRAM OF COPIAPO, Copiapo, Chili, S.A. (1858).
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CHARLES E. HILL, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR CHINA.

ANCIENT LANDMARK OF HONG QUE Shanghai (1864).

RICHARD H. HARTLEY, LIMA, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR PERU.

J. L. HUTCHINSON LODGE at Arica.

COLOMBIA.—ISTHMUS LODGE, at Panama.

PERMANENT MEMBERS

OF THE

LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Past Grand Masters.

INSON	5845.
M. RANDALL	5851.
VIS, M.D.	5854.
D, Esq.	5857.
POOLIDGE, Esq.	5861.
KMAN, Esq.	5863.

Past Deputy Grand Masters.

DAME, Esq.	5832.
MITH, Esq.	5837.
WELLS	5844.
IGE, Esq.	5851.
LOW, M.D.	5854.
R. TRAIN	5859.
MITH, M.D.	5860.
RREN	5861.
L P. WILDER.	5862.
DAME, Esq.	5863.

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HON. THOMAS TOLMAN	5840.
DANIEL HARWOOD, M.D.	5853.
RICHARD S. SPOFFORD, M.D.	5854.
HON. WILLIAM C. PLUNKETT	5855.
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JOEL SPALDING, M.D.	5860.
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PETER C. JONES, Esq.	5862.
DANIEL REYNOLDS, Esq.	5863.
BENJAMIN DEAN, Esq.	5864.
OLON THORNTON, Esq.	5865.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ADDRESS:
LESLIE W. MOORE, FREEMASONS' HALL,
No. 10 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

THE

TRESTLE-BOARD,

FOR THE USE OF

PTERS, COUNCILS, AND ENCAMPMENTS.

By CHARLES W. MOORE,

Editor of the Freemasons' Magazine.

most popular Masonic Manual ever published in America, and used, both in this country and Europe, than any similar work received the approval and recommendation of nearly every distinguished Mason in the United States. It gives in systematic and in a clear and comprehensive manner, all the aid that such can give, in the work of all the degrees of the Lodge, Chapter, and Council; together with full Installation Services for each grade; and the various forms of petitions, &c., resolutions, and proceedings. Its extensive use has contributed more the last ten years to the unity of work and ceremonies among the Lodges, and other Masonic bodies in this country, than could have been effected by any other means. It is fully illustrated with plates, and is sold at \$14 a dozen, \$1.40 a copy. It is addressed to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, No. 10 South Street, New York, and will receive prompt attention; or it may be had through any bookseller.

The Grand Lodge of California recommended, in his address in May last, as a Text-book, the "New Masonic Trestle-Board." I will not go so far as to say that it has no equal, but I feel no doubt of my belief that it has never had a superior."

RECOMMENDATION.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts recommend the "TRESTLE-BOARD" as containing all the essentials of a Manual of Ancient Craft Masonry; and in particular works, it especially sanctions to the subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction this most excellent compend of the principles and ceremonies of the

THE POCKET TRESTLE-BOARD

AND

DIGEST OF MASONIC LAW.

At the request of brethren interested in preserving the *purity* of the *WORK*, and maintaining *uniformity* of *PRACTICE* in the Lodges, the undersigned has prepared a *POCKET EDITION* of the *TRESTLE-BOARD*, particularly adapted to aid in the acquisition of a *correct* knowledge of the *RITUAL*, and submits it as a *TEXT-BOOK*, in all respects in strict conformity with the *LECTURES* of ancient Craft Masonry, as taught in the oldest and best Lodges in this country since the year 1805; and as being also wholly free from the corruptions of modern charlatanism and itinerant lecturers.

Appended to, and making a part of the *Manual*, is a carefully prepared and comprehensive *DIGEST of the Laws of the Lodge*, which, it is believed, will be found to be of great practical value, not only to the officers, but to the individual members of the Lodge who may avail themselves of its teachings. And if placed in the hands of every candidate, at his initiation, it is not to be doubted that his ability for usefulness would be thereby materially increased.

The work is neatly bound in the pocket-book (tuck) form. The price is *seventy-five cents* a single copy, or eight dollars (\$8.00) a dozen.

It is believed that at the above prices, and in view of the amount of matter given and the practical usefulness of the work, it is the cheapest, as it is one of the most reliable, *Masonic Manuals* ever offered to the fraternity.

Orders for the work can be sent directly to the undersigned, or Clark & Maynard, New York; J. B. Lippincott & Co., and Moss & Brother, Philadelphia; or through any of the large book-houses in the principal cities. Sent by mail, post paid, on receipt of price. Address,

CHARLES W. MOORE, *Grand Secretary*,
Freemasons' Hall, Boston.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

BOSTON, Feb. 21, 1861.

A *DIGEST OF MASONIC LAW*, by Brother CHARLES W. MOORE, needs no other recommendation than his own name.

If, however, the official positions held by the undersigned are considered as attaching any additional value to their opinions, or additional importance to their indorsement of the work, they most cordially give it the benefit of both, and recommend it to all the fraternity, especially to the Masons of this jurisdiction, as emphatically a correct, useful, and valuable *Manual*.

JOHN T. HEARD, *P. G. M.*
WINSLow LEWIS, *P. G. M.*
WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE, *Grand Master.*

I take great pleasure in recommending the above little work to all the Lodges and Brethren in this jurisdiction, as admirably calculated to promote an accurate knowledge of the *RITUAL*. As a reliable text-book of *MASONIC LAW*, it should be in the hands of every initiate, and may be profitably studied by every brother desirous of perfecting himself in *Masonic culture*.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE, *G. Master of Grand Lodge of Massachusetts*
BOSTON, March 19, 1861.

BOSTON, March 26, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR, — I was this morning favored with the gift of a neatly bound copy of your "Trestle-Board and Digest," for which please accept my acknowledgments.

It is even a better and more useful work than I supposed it to be when I gave it the "indorsement" which is printed under the head of "Recommendations." The "Digest" will be very useful to Masters of Lodges, and, in fact, to all who desire to know the exact *Masonic law*, or questions of frequent occurrence in the government of Lodges.

Very fraternally yours,

JOHN T. HEARD

TO CHARLES W. MOORE, Esq.

Volume 10 - 1866 - Grand Lodge

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

OF

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

OF THE

Freemasons -
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, --

**UNION WITH THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN
EUROPE AND AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS.**

From March 14 to Dec. 27, 1866 ;

BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, GRAND MASTER.

Ordered to be Read in all the Lodges.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

1867.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

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Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

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RESS OF THE FREEMASONS' MAGAZINE.

1867.

1870, April 1.
Gift of
Wm. S. Gardner,
of Boston.

Abstract of Proceedings

OF THE

AND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

MARCH 14, A.L. 5866.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall, Boston, on Wednesday, March 14, A.L. 5866.

Present.

WILLIAM C. DAME	Grand Master.
JOHN D. NICKERSON	Deputy Grand Master.
JOSEPH L. SUTTON	Senior Grand Warden.
JOSEPH L. MARSHALL	Junior Grand Warden.
JOSEPH L. McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
JOSEPH L. W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
JOHN W. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain.
JOHN D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
JOHN W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
JOHN P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN RICK J. FOSS	Junior Grand Deacon.
JOHN F. WHITEMORE, } JOHN F. FROST, } JOHN R. CHENEY, }	Grand Stewards.
JOHN D. EVERETT, } JOHN S. HEYWOOD, }	Grand Pursuivants.
JOHN A. BANCROFT, } JOHN POPE, }	Grand Lecturers.
JOHN S. RHODES	Grand Organist.
JOHN H. KENT	Grand Chorister.
JOHN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R.W. J. H. PIERSON	District No. 2.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 3.
R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
R.W. J. R. GAY	District No. 5.
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District No. 6.
R.W. JOHN B. BAYLIES	District No. 7.
R.W. R. S. POPE	District No. 8.
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
R.W. S. O. DEARBORN	District No. 11.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. SIMON W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
R.W. and Rt. Rev. GEORGE M. RANDALL	" " "
R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	" " "
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. Rev. E. M. P. WELLS	" " " "
R.W. LUCIUS R. PAIGE	" " " "
R.W. CHARLES R. TRAIN	" " " "
R.W. WILLIAM NORTH	Past Grand Warden.
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER	" " "
R.W. SAMUEL K. HUTCHINSON	" " "
R.W. BENJAMIN DEAN	" " "
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at a quarter past two o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain. The record of the last communication was read.

Br. James R. Gladwin was recognized as Proxy for Mount Moriah Lodge, Westfield, and Br. William M. Ward for Quaboag Lodge, Warren.

The Committee on the late Grand Master's address offered the following report:—

The Committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the M. W. Grand Master Parkman, have attended to that duty, and submit the following report,—

tee accord to the late Grand Master the highest intelligence, zeal, and fidelity, with which he has discharged his duties devolved upon him by the Grand Lodge, and that the close of his official career finds our Master in a prosperous condition.

The Committee especially commend the attention and consideration of the Grand Lodge to that part of the constitution which relates to the charities of the Grand Lodge. The Committee agree with the address, that applicants for relief should not be turned over to the Grand Master. Every applicant should be referred to a committee of investigation of every applicant; and no brother should refer such applicant to the Grand Master for relief unless he has *prima facie* evidence that the applicant is worthy. This is necessary; first, as a matter of duty to the Grand Lodge, and secondly, from the responsibility which the Grand Lodge should feel in preserving and increasing the funds for its charities are bestowed. With the consequences of the late war for the Union, and increased calls by the late war for the Union, and increased calls upon our charities; and the fact that these calls are increasing, so should our care increase, that these funds are not squandered or misapplied.

The Committee regret that they are compelled to believe that the Grand Lodge has been attended with an extravagance of expenditure in the administration of the affairs of the Grand Lodge which is not to be justified. With an increase for the year of the Grand Lodge in round numbers to \$8,000, the Committee report that \$2,700 expended in charities, and about \$1,000 in miscellaneous expenses, including the expenses of the Grand Lodge and suite in making official visits, in the dedication and consecration of Lodges, installation of officers, &c., and entertainments furnished the District Deputies at their meetings, and dinner to the representatives of Lodges at the annual Feast given on the 27th of December. Without blame to any party, the Committee will give credit to the Grand Lodge for the laying of the corner-stone of the new Temple, on the 14th October, 1864, the Grand Lodge alone amounted to \$169; and this did not cover

all the expenses which the Grand Lodge had to pay on that occasion.

The Committee desire thus generally to call attention to what they deem a growing evil, and feel bound to condemn such extravagance in hospitalities and expenditures in such terms as shall attract the attention of the Grand Lodge, that the proper remedy may be applied and a reformation accomplished.

Your Committee believe that it is not necessary or proper for the Grand Master, in making official visits, or in the performance of official duties, such as have been referred to, to take with him a large suite; they submit that the expenses of the necessary Grand Officers should be borne by the Lodge to whom the visit is made and for whom the services are rendered.

The hospitalities of Freemasonry had better be paid for from the pocket of each brother who may partake thereof, than drawn from the treasury at a time when the Grand Lodge must levy a heavy debt in order to accomplish the completion of the Temple: an enterprise so overshadowing in its importance to the fraternity. At no period in its history has the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts been engaged in liabilities so vast or responsibilities of such magnitude.

It is therefore not only a solemn obligation but the wisest policy to exercise such a rigid economy as is consistent with the truest performance of its duties.

With this view, the Committee have prepared and submit the following votes as a part of this report, and recommend that they be adopted by the Grand Lodge:—

Voted, That the Grand Master be authorized and empowered to draw upon the Treasurer for such sums of money as are necessary to defray the expenses of the meetings of the District Deputy Grand Masters at the Annual and Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Master in his Annual Address report such expenditures.

Voted, That in the dedication of new masonic halls, the Grand Lodge will pay the travelling expenses of its own officers, whenever, in the opinion of the Grand Master, the subordinate Lodge is unable to bear them.

in constituting new Lodges, the travelling expenses of the Grand Officers shall be paid by the Grand

whenever the Grand Officers are invited to perform the ceremony of installation, either publicly or in private, the expenses shall be borne by the subordinate Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Master be instructed to make a report of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge in the next session.

He also report the following amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

8, Art. III., Part IV., in the second line, by striking "five" after the word "twenty."

10, Art. I., Part IV., in the second line, by striking the word "three" and inserting "five."

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES R. TRAIN.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

JOHN T. HEARD, *by* C. R. TRAIN.

CHARLES W. MOORE.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

By R.W. Br. Benjamin Dean, amended by Brother Chickerling, the following resolution was adopted: The amendments of the Constitutions, as proposed, to wit:—

That the whole subject of the amount of initiation fee be paid to the Grand Lodge for each year be referred to a Committee to report at the next quarterly session of the Grand Lodge.

And the votes appended thereto were then taken; and the consideration of the proposed amendments to the Constitution was referred to Brothers [names] and Oliver.

The Committee on the complaint of Merrimac Lodge *vs.* St. Mark's Lodge had further time.

The report of the Committee on Jewels for Past Grand Officers was read and referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

R.W. Br. William S. Gardner offered the following order, which was adopted and referred to Brother Gardner, R.W. Br. James A. Fox, and R.W. Br. Lucius R. Paige : —

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to fix the station in Grand Lodge of those officers whose position has not been already established by custom in this Grand Lodge, and all matters relating thereto.

The Committee on the complaint of Day Spring Lodge *vs.* Thomas Lodge, offered the following report, which was accepted, and the resolution attached, after amendment, was adopted, as recorded below : —

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, March 14, 1865.

M.W.G. MASTER, — The Committee appointed at the last regular communication of this Grand Lodge to investigate the complaint of Day Spring Lodge, Monson, against Thomas Lodge, Palmer, beg leave to submit the following report : —

The complaint involves the vexed and increasingly perplexing question of jurisdiction. It appears that in the summer of 1864, three men, residing in or near the centre of the town of Wales, applied for the degrees to Thomas Lodge, and the applications were received. The W. Master of Day Spring Lodge, believing Wales to be under the jurisdiction of his Lodge, objected to the proceedings in the case. The W. Master of Thomas Lodge requested him to allow them to proceed, inasmuch as the application had gone in, and that Thomas Lodge would pay over the initiation fees to them, as the Grand Constitutions require in such cases. The W. Master consented, as he says, in view of the fact, that Day Spring Lodge was a new Lodge, and also desiring to live on amicable terms with Thomas Lodge. After

as had been accepted, and the degrees conferred by Day Spring Lodge requested the fees. Thomas "pass over" the request, virtually refusing to Day Spring Lodge, after making other fruitless attempts in the matter with Thomas Lodge, appealed to the Grand Lodge. He decided that Wales was in the jurisdiction of Day Spring Lodge, and that Thomas Lodge should pay over the fees, as the Grand Constitutions require in such cases. The case was laid before Thomas Lodge; and your Committee added that the Worshipful Master, Br. J. B. Shaw, endeavored to induce his Lodge to comply with that decision, but the Lodge voted not to pass over the money.

The location of these towns. Wales is about seven miles from Monson. Palmer is four miles north of Monson, and about five miles northwest from Wales. The towns of Monson and Palmer are between, so that persons going from Wales to Palmer pass through one of these towns. The distance from Wales to Palmer, through Monson, is eleven miles; through the mail route, twelve miles; or by another, a shorter route, about ten to eleven miles. There is no railroad or other direct communication between the two places. The above is a brief statement of the main features in the case.

Only one point of law on which the brethren of Day Spring Lodge attempt to justify their proceedings, and that is in the Grand V., Art. III., Sect. 5 of the Grand Constitutions. It says: "Applications for initiation shall be made to the Lodge in the neighborhood where the petitioner resides, if there be a Lodge; if there be none, then he shall apply to the Lodge nearest to his residence."

The paper put into the hands of your Committee by the petitioners, purporting to be a statement of their case, is signed by three brethren residing in Wales, whose initiation was refused by Day Spring Lodge. In this paper, they say, "We respectfully request ourselves to be the sole judges of the case presented to us, and do not consider it the right of any other Lodge or Day Spring Lodge to dictate or interfere in such a matter." Again: "But this question, we leave to turn upon the convenience of access of Thomas

Lodge and Day Spring Lodge to us, and who are to be the judges of the convenience of access."

Your Committee cannot concede for a moment the right of an applicant for the degrees of Masonry to decide what Lodge is "most convenient" to his residence. This Grand Lodge alone has power to decide that question; and, in the person of its Grand Master, *did* decide the question in the case before us; and, in the opinion of your Committee, the only proper course for Thomas Lodge to have pursued in this case was to submit to the decision of the Grand Master, and, if dissatisfied with that decision, to appeal to the Grand Lodge to have it reversed.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution,—

That the decision of the Grand Master, not having been appealed from, is final; and that Thomas Lodge be directed to pay to Day Spring Lodge the fees received for the initiation of the candidates above named.

J. W. DADMUN.

LUCIUS R. PAIGE.

A complaint was preferred by Norfolk Union Lodge against Corner-Stone and Fraternal Lodges for violation of its rights of jurisdiction, and referred to R.W. Brothers William S. Gardner, J. H. Pierson, and Benjamin Dean.

The proceedings of Jerusalem Lodge, in the case of Jeremiah D. Wells, were presented, and referred to R.W. Brothers Henry Chickering, Henry W. Crafts, and W. Br. G. Robinson, who subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted, and said Wells expelled from Masonry:—

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, A.L. 5866.

To the M.W. Grand Master, Wardens, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Your Committee to whom was referred the case of the expulsion of Jeremiah D. Wells from Jerusalem Lodge, Northampton, respectfully report—

ve examined the papers in the case and heard
 ey find the proceedings in the case conducted
 sonic rules, and the action legal ; and they recom-
 roceedings in the case be confirmed.

espectfully submitted.

H. CHICKERING.

D. W. CRAFTS.

GEORGE ROBINSON.

in the case of Mount Moriah Lodge *vs.*
 Chadwick were presented, and referred to the
 ee, who subsequently offered the following
 was adopted, and said Chadwick was expelled
 —

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, A.L. 5886.

and Master, Wardens, and Members of the M.W. Grand
 Lodge.

tees, to whom was referred the case of the expul-
 E. Chadwick from Mount Moriah Lodge, West-
 y report—

ve examined the papers in the case, and find the
 ducted according to masonic rules, and recom-
 proceedings of the Lodge in the case be con-

HENRY CHICKERING.

D. W. CRAFTS.

G. ROBINSON.

of R.W. Rev. Br. E. M. P. Wells, it was
 e sum of five hundred dollars be placed in the
 ommittee on Charity for charitable purposes.
 Winslow Lewis offered the following reso-
 were unanimously adopted, the brethren all

Whereas, during the present year, in the month of May, there will be held a jubilee in commemoration of an event unparalleled in the whole history of the Order, viz., The advent of the fiftieth anniversary of the Grand Mastership of the illustrious Prince Frederic of the Netherlands, to be celebrated at the Hague ; and, —

Whereas, This happy occasion should be appropriately noticed by fraternal congratulations from all the sister Grand Lodges, so nearly connected by sentiment, however divided by space, therefore, —

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts send their fraternal greeting to the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands on the remarkable epoch of its history, when the venerable Head, spared to be for half a century its ornament and Master, completes an event which has no like masonic parallel.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts cannot but be feelingly impressed that their forefathers were dwellers in Holland, and that from her shore they embarked, and here founded that prosperity which has increased to the fulness of a great national Union.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge tender their highest respects and fraternal regards to His Highness, Prince Frederic, the Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand East of the Netherlands, with their congratulations that Providence has spared him to be so long the guide and counsellor of his brethren, — the beloved and honored Head of the Order, — the Patriarch of Freemasonry. May the reflection that the devotion of half a century to the cause of philanthropy be the solace of his aged heart, and smooth his declining years to a peaceful and happy close.

R.W. Br. William D. Coolidge offered the following report, which was adopted : —

The Committee appointed to consider what action should be taken in reference to the death of R.W. Br. Lemuel Gay, ask leave to submit the following report, —

Whereas, it has pleased the All-Wise Disposer of events to remove from this life our Right Worshipful and worthy brother, Lemuel Gay of Stoughton, District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth District, therefore, —

That we are called to mourn the loss of one, who, long and useful life, maintained the character of an high-minded, and public-spirited citizen; of one, who, at various times, sustained offices of trust and responsibility on the part of the United States, of Massachusetts, the County of Norfolk, and his native town.

Born May 1, 1790, and died Feb. 15, 1866, thus having attained the age of seventy-six years. He was buried with military honors. The funeral took place on the 18th of February, and was attended by an unusually large number of friends. There were present on that occasion one English Knight Templar, one Royal Arch Chapter, and several ladies, either in full or represented.

That any obituary notice of our departed friend would be incomplete without stating his firm, inflexible, and unflinching position to the wanton and malicious attacks of anti-slavery. He was one who with others bore the burden and heat of the day, at a time that "tried men's souls," and against whom the bigots and fanatics aimed their Parthian arrows. His name is now obsolete and almost forgotten; yet it is the memory of him, more especially the younger members of our Order, now basking in the sunshine of prosperity, to cherish the memory of those departed brethren, who, in a trying hour, maintained their integrity, and with heroic courage fought the "good fight of faith."

Being no further business, the Grand Lodge was adjourned to simple Form at half-past four o'clock. Prayer by the Chaplain.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

JUNE 18, A.L. 5866.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE was held at Freemasons' Hall, in Boston, on Wednesday, June 13, A.L. 5866.

Present.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL	Senior Grand Warden, <i>p.t.</i>
R.W. CHARLES R. TRAIN	Junior Grand Warden, <i>p.t.</i>
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. HENRY W. MUZZEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDW. STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. GEORGE FROST, }	
W. J. EDWARD EVERETT	Grand Pursuivant.
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. R. H. POPE, }	
W. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1
R.W. GEORGE H. PIERSON	District No. 2
R.W. SAMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 3
R.W. H. C. SKINNER	District No. 4
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District No. 6
R.W. R. S. POPE	District No. 8
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10
R.W. S. O. DEARBORN	District No. 11

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS	Past Grand Master.
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. Rev. E. M. P. WELLS	" " " "
R.W. LUCIUS R. PAIGE	" " " "

V. WARREN	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. TRAIN	" " " "
L. P. WILDER	" " " "
W. BAKER	Past Grand Warden.
S. GARDNER	" " "
K. HUTCHINSON	" " "
ORNTON	" " "

Lodge was opened in Ample Form at a two o'clock. Prayer by the R.W. and Rev. Br.

of the last communication was read.

Charles R. Train offered the following report, read, discussed, and adopted by the constitutional officers in the affirmative:—

Committee to whom the Grand Lodge on the 14th of [blank] referred the whole subject of initiation fees, and the amount paid to the Grand Lodge for each initiate, have the duty assigned them, and beg leave to report,—

Amount of the initiation fees, and the dues to be paid for each initiate, was fixed several years ago, when the financial condition of the country has so much values have so advanced, that what was then a proper sum is now inadequate to the wants of the Lodges, or of the Grand Lodge.

Committee therefore recommend the Constitutions be amended as follows:—

Art. I., Sect. 10, strike out in the second line of the word "six," and insert "ten" instead thereof; in the same line strike out the word "three," and insert "ten" thereof.

Art. IV., Art. III., Sect. 8, insert after the word "four" in the second line, the word "five."

It was observed that these amendments will increase the dues of the subordinate Lodges three dollars on each initiate, and of the Grand Lodge two dollars.

It was worthy of the degrees would be likely to object to an initiation fee of twenty-five dollars; and the

Lodges require the increase, which is not so great in proportion as the increase of their general expenses, and the calls upon them for masonic relief.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES R. TRAIN.

WILLIAM PARKMAN.

S. P. OLIVER.

CHARTERS GRANTED.

Petitions for Charters were presented by Athelstane, Kono-hassett, Acacia, and Lafayette Lodges, which have been working the past year under dispensations, and referred to committees, who subsequently offered the following reports, all of which were adopted, and Charters ordered to be issued accordingly : —

ATHELSTANE LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, A.L. 5866.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Athelstane Lodge, at Worcester, Mass., for a Charter, have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully report, —

That they have examined the Records presented them, and find that they have been neatly and accurately kept. The By-Laws they have also carefully examined, and recommend that sections five and six be stricken out. In all other respects they are in accordance with the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge.

They also find that the fees due the Grand Lodge have been regularly paid. Your Committee would therefore recommend that, after the alterations, as suggested, are made in the By-Laws, the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. A. BISHOP.

A. A. BURDITT.

M. B. SANBORN.

KONOHASSET LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, A.L. 5866.

He appointed to examine the By-Laws and Records of this Lodge, at Cohasset, report, —
 The Records are well kept and well written in a handsome style, and the By-Laws are in consonance with the Constitutions, and are recommended for the Grand Lodge. The Committee recommend that they be referred to them.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

ACACIA LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, A.L. 5866.

He to whom was referred the petition of certain brethren for a Charter under the name of Acacia Lodge, respectfully report, —

We have examined the Records of this Lodge while in session, and the By-Laws which they offer for ap-

provement. The Records are properly kept, and show that the brethren have been diligent and zealously during the past year.

The By-Laws are voluminous, and contain many things which we deem frivolous and useless, and which they have no occasion for instance : —

Section 1, there is a provision that every brother may be admitted a member at his own request, if he waits six months after being raised ; otherwise, a ballot must be taken, which shall require a two-thirds vote to admit him. We do not believe that the general rule in this jurisdiction should be changed by the ballot, and that an unanimous consent should be required to this privilege.

That every Lodge is entitled to all its rights and the enjoyment of all the rights which its property and membership afford. These may be of less or greater value to the character of its members and the means of their improvement.

If the provision of this section should be approved, then, by the admission of a brother to this Lodge, one-third of its members might be excluded, and trouble and turmoil and confusion follow. The rule in Masonry, that perfect unanimity must prevail in the acceptance of candidates and admission of members, is a rigorous and righteous one. This idea might be enlarged upon had your Committee time; but they believe the principle is so well settled in this State by long experience that it is unnecessary. No brother, member of a Lodge, can be unseated by the admission of a brother who is repugnant to him. If he has this power over the admission of a visiting brother, how much more ought he to have the same power over the admission of a brother to the common rights and privileges which he enjoys as a member.

Your Committee recommend that a Charter be granted the petitioners in accordance with their request, and that the By-Laws be approved as changed and amended by your Committee.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

G. W. WARREN.

WILLIAM W. BAKER.

LAFAYETTE LODGE.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of certain brethren for a Charter for a new Lodge in Roxbury by the name of *Lafayette*, respectfully report, —

That they have examined their doings for their year under dispensation, and the By-Laws presented for approval, and find them in all respects such as they should be. The records are neatly kept and the proceedings of the Lodge judiciously transcribed.

The By-Laws are models of excellence for their brevity and clearness; free from all ambiguity of expression, the meaning and intention can readily be ascertained.

Your Committee desire to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the following clause in Art. IX.: "Only fifteen applications shall be accepted during any one year."

ative spirit existing among the petitioners is provision in their By-Laws. It has been apparent that the immense amount of work done by many in this jurisdiction is tending to destroy the great mystery. The beauty of our ritual and the good of the members of a Lodge cannot be conceived if the aim is to make Masons and money. The inevitable overburdened work is to impair the effectiveness of the work; to weary the brethren by constant repetitions, and render the attendance small; to destroy the unity of the brethren; and to sap the very foundations of

The committee hail with pleasure this determination of the Grand Lodge to return to the palmy days of our fathers, when international intercourse was one of the chief objects of

The committee recommend that a Charter be granted in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners, and that their By-Laws be amended.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

EDW. STEARNS.

WILLIAM P. SANDERS.

FURTHER TIME.

The committee on Stations of Grand Officers, and on the petition of Merrimac Lodge *vs.* St. Mark's Lodge, respectively recommended that time granted them at their own request.

EXPULSIONS.

The committee on Petitions and documents in the following cases of expulsion were presented and referred to R.W. Brothers, Grand Master, S. O. Dearborn, and David W. Crafts, Grand Secretary. *St. Mark's Lodge vs. Lewis D. D. Vorhees*; *Hampden Lodge vs. William H. Spooner*; *Republican Lodge vs. H.*

B. Stevens ; Cincinnatus Lodge *vs.* John Sweeney ; Baalbec Lodge *vs.* George E. Wood. And this Committee, having attended to the duties of their appointment, submitted the following reports, which were severally unanimously adopted :—

LEWIS D. D. VORHEES.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Essex Lodge, relative to the expulsion of Br. Lewis D. D. Vorhees from the rights and privileges of Masonry, have attended to their duty, and respectfully report, —

That they find the proceedings of Essex Lodge to be in accordance with masonic usage, and recommend that they be confirmed.

HENRY C. SKINNER.

S. O. DEARBORN.

D. W. CRAFTS.

WILLIAM H. SPOONER.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Hampden Lodge, relative to the expulsion of Br. William H. Spooner from the rights and privileges of Masonry, have attended to that duty, and respectfully report, —

That they do not find the report of the proceedings of Hampden Lodge to be quite in accordance with masonic usage, in regard to fulness of detail ; but from other evidence that they have obtained, they beg leave to recommend that the doings of the Lodge be confirmed.

H. C. SKINNER.

S. O. DEARBORN.

D. W. CRAFTS.

H. B. STEVENS.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Republican Lodge, relative to the expulsion of Br. H. B. Stevens from the rights and privileges of Masonry, have attended to their duty, and respectfully report, —

That they find the proceedings of Republican Lodge to be in accordance with masonic usage, and recommend that they be confirmed.

H. C. SKINNER.
S. O. DEARBORN.
D. W. CRAFTS.

JOHN SWEENEY.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Cincinnatus Lodge, relative to the expulsion of Br. John Sweeney from the rights and privileges of Masonry, have attended to their duty, and report the proceedings incomplete, and recommend that they be returned to said Lodge for full particulars.

H. C. SKINNER.
D. W. CRAFTS.
S. O. DEARBORN.

GEORGE E. WOOD.

The Committee appointed to examine the proceedings of Baalbec Lodge, relative to the expulsion of Br. George E. Wood from the rights and privileges of Masonry, have attended to that duty, and report the record of the proceedings incomplete, and recommend that they be returned to said Lodge for further particulars.

H. C. SKINNER.
D. W. CRAFTS.
S. O. DEARBORN.

CHARITY.

On motion, it was *Voted*, That the sum of five hundred dollars be placed in the hands of the Committee on Charity for distribution.

ST. ALBAN'S LODGE.

A communication was received from the Master of St. Alban's Lodge, relative to the existing difficulties between the latter and St. James Lodge, which was referred to the Grand Master and the Recording Grand Secretary.

NORFOLK UNION LODGE.

The Committee on the complaint of Norfolk Union Lodge presented the following report, which was adopted : —

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Committee to whom was referred the complaint of Norfolk Union Lodge at Randolph, against Corner Stone Lodge of Duxbury, and also the complaint of Norfolk Union Lodge against Fraternal Lodge of Barnstable, respectfully report, —

The complaint against Fraternal Lodge consists in the charge that this Lodge took jurisdiction over the person of F. M. Coleman, whom the complaint alleges was a resident of Braintree and Randolph during the last two years, and conferred the degrees upon him without the consent of the complaining Lodge. The evidence before your Committee shows that Br. Coleman was born at Cotuit, near Barnstable; that his father resides there; that Br. Coleman is twenty-five years old and unmarried. In October, 1864, he went to Randolph and labored at his trade, and ever since has lived there; and at Randolph, in 1865, he applied to Fraternal Lodge. His application was referred to a Committee, the chairman of which resided at Cotuit (the other members being well acquainted with the inhabitants of Cotuit), and that in performing their duty the question of residence came up before the Committee, and in pursuance of their duty, they inquired of the father of Br. Coleman, who informed the Committee that his son's residence was at Cotuit, and that he was away at labor, but only temporarily. The Committee, satisfied in other respects, reported favorably. Mr. Coleman was accepted, and the degrees conferred upon him.

It appeared before your Committee that, in 1865, Br. Coleman was taxed at Braintree, and that he paid the tax, and did not vote there at the next election. Under the circumstances, the complainants before your Committee generously declined to have the constitutional penalty enforced, it appearing that the brethren of Fraternal Lodge had conducted themselves carefully, and with no intention of interfering with any jurisdiction outside of their

Committee, therefore, not being called upon to decide of residence, would recommend that the complaining leave to withdraw their complaint.

complaint of the same Lodge against Corner Stone conferring the degrees upon Samuel E. Ring, your report that it appeared before them that the fee for the complaining Lodge is \$40, and in the Corner Stone that Br. Ring has resided nearly two years at Rantepen in partnership, as a dentist, with his brother-in-law, that in each of said years he voted in the town election in Randolph; that he was enrolled in 1864 in Randolph for military service; and that he contributed to the fund of that town to raise money to escape the draft. On the other hand, it is contended by Corner Stone Lodge that he resided at Duxbury; that, although he did business at Rantepen at each Saturday night he returned to Duxbury where he resided, and there remained until Monday morning, and then returned to Randolph.

Constitutions provide, Part IV., Art. III., Sect. 5, that "for initiation shall be made to the Lodge in the town where the petitioner resides," &c. The real question is, did Br. Ring reside at the time of his application? That he was unmarried, and twenty-four years of age. Common for young men of this age, and single, to have two residences — one where they do business, and the other where their parents reside, which they have not actually abandoned. If he had done anything previous to his application, which would have led to the selection of either place as a residence, it may have been found out where his actual residence was. It appears to the committee that when Br. Ring permitted himself to be taxed in Randolph, and when he not only paid this tax without protest, but acted as a citizen and resident of Randolph, and when he was enrolled there without objection on his part, that there is evidence of acts of Br. Ring, which unmistakably show that he considered himself a resident of Randolph. Behind this the committee cannot go. In accordance with these facts, your committee must find, as Br. Ring has already decided, that at the time of his application he was a resident of Randolph, within the

jurisdiction of Norfolk Union Lodge; and that Corner Stone Lodge had no right to receive his application, or to confer the degrees upon him.

The other question, as to what action the Grand Lodge should take in the premises, is more troublesome. Did Corner Stone Lodge know that his residence was at Randolph? or (which is the same thing) ought they to have known by proper diligence and examination? It is clear that Br. Ring was only occasionally at Kingston (near Duxbury); and it appears to your Committee that his return there was at such intervals of time that the Lodge at Duxbury should have put themselves upon a careful and strict inquiry as to his residence. It appears that Br. Ring in his application stated that his place of residence was at Kingston; that the Committee of Corner Stone Lodge upon this application resided at Kingston; and that they made careful investigation, and were intimately acquainted with the applicant.

Under these circumstances, your Committee do not believe that Corner Stone Lodge intentionally interfered with the jurisdiction of Norfolk Union Lodge; but it is clear that Br. Ring was a resident of Norfolk, and clearly within the jurisdiction of the Lodge there located. As this Lodge does not seem willing to remit the penalty, your Committee recommend that the Grand Lodge pass the following order,—

Ordered, That the Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth Masonic District be directed to collect of Corner Stone Lodge, at Duxbury, the amount of fees received for conferring the degrees upon Br. Samuel E. Ring, and that he pay the same over to Norfolk Union Lodge.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.
GEORGE H. PIERSON.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form at five o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

SEPT. 12, A.L. 5866.

LY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND
 MASSACHUSETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall,
 er Street, in Boston, on Wednesday, Sept. 12,

Present.

C. DAME	Grand Master.
SUTTON	Senior Grand Warden.
MARSHALL	Junior Grand Warden.
LELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
V. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain.
STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
MUZZEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
MCROFT, }	Grand Lecturers.
S	Grand Organist.
Y	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

FOX	District No. 1.
BISHOP	District No. 3.
SKINNER	District No. 4.
R. GAY	District No. 5.
RDITT	District No. 6.
AYLIES	District No. 7.
E	District No. 8.
HICKERING	District No. 9.
CRAFTS	District No. 10.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

LEWIS	Past Grand Master.
D. COOLIDGE	" " "
PARKMAN	" " "
A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
P. WELLS	" " " "
W. BAKER	Past Grand Warden.
DEAN	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at two o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The record of the last communication was read.

The Committee on Stations of Grand Officers had further time.

The Committee on the complaint of St. Alban's Lodge also had further time.

Petitions for Charters for Charles W. Moore, Artisan, James Otis, and Adelphi Lodges, all of which had been working the past year under dispensations, were presented and referred; and the following reports were subsequently received and adopted.

CHARLES W. MOORE LODGE.

The Committee to whom were referred the By-Laws and Records of Charles W. Moore Lodge of Fitchburg, report,—

That the former are in accordance with masonic principles, and with the requirements of this Grand Lodge, and that the latter are well kept and correctly engrossed; and the Committee therefore recommend that a Charter be given to the petitioners for the same.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

H. A. BROWN.

ARTISAN LODGE.

The Committee appointed to examine the By-Laws and Records of Artisan Lodge, Winchendon, recommend,—

That a Charter be granted to the petitioners of said Lodge, the requirements of the Grand Lodge having been observed and complied with in regard to their By-Laws, and the Records kept neatly and correctly.

N. A. THOMPSON.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

W. T. DAVIS.

JAMES OTIS LODGE.

Committee to whom was referred the application of James
for a Charter, beg leave to report, —

have examined the Records and By-Laws of said Lodge,
correct, and recommend that a Charter be granted.

R. S. POPE.

J. W. DADMUN.

EDWARD STEARNS.

ADELPHI LODGE.

Committee to whom was referred the petition of Adelphi
for a Charter, respectfully report, —

have examined the Records, and find them neatly
kept, and the By-Laws in conformity to the Consti-
tution of the Grand Lodge. Also that the returns are correctly
made, and the fees paid over as the law directs. They therefore
recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

H. C. SKINNER.

A. A. BURDITT.

N. P. PERKINS.

AMENDMENTS OF CONSTITUTIONS.

of R.W. Br. Henry Chickering, Art. VII. of
the Constitutions was referred to R.W. Brothers
Wm. S. Gardner and Wm. D. Coolidge, to con-
sider and report at the next Communication of the Grand
Lodge. They recommend that the same which they may consider

Wm. D. Spooner, Master of Roswell Lee Lodge,
following vote, which was referred to W. Brother
R. W. Brothers Wm. S. Gardner and Wm.
: —

Voted, That the Grand Secretary, in his notifications to the subordinate lodges of any meeting of the Grand Lodge, shall include in such notifications a copy of any and all proposed amendments to the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, the question of the adoption of which is to be voted upon at said meeting.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form at four o'clock.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,

DEC. 13, A.L. 5866.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall, No. 10 Summer Street, on Wednesday, December 13, A.L. 5866, at two o'clock, P.M.

Present.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Cor. Grand Secretary.
W. REV. WILLIAM R. ALGER, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. JOHN W. DADMUN, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. ARTHUR CHENEY, }	
W. H. H. F. WHITTEMORE, }	
W. J. EDWARD EVERETT, }	Grand Pursuivants.
W. CHARLES HEYWOOD, }	
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. L. H. GAMWELL, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE, }	
Br. JOHN B. RHODES	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

J. FOX	District No. 1.
A. PIERSON	District No. 2.
A. BISHOP	District No. 3.
C. SKINNER	District No. 4.
Y	District No. 5.
URDITT	District No. 6.
BAYLIES	District No. 7.
S. POPE	District No. 8.
CHICKERING	District No. 9.
W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
ARBORN	District No. 11.
A. THOMPSON	District No. 12.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
Rev. GEORGE M. RANDALL	" " "
Y LEWIS, M.D.	" " "
D. COOLIDGE	" " "
PARKMAN	" " "
A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. TRAIN	" " "
L. P. WILDER	" " "
D. L. WALES, M.D.	Past Grand Warden.
ALDING, M.D.	" " "
NORTH	" " "
W. BAKER	" " "
S. GARDNER	" " "
WS	" " "
K. HUTCHINSON	" " "
SHEPPARD	" " "
WRIGHT	" " "
ROBBINS	" " "
J. JONES	" " "
N DEAN	" " "
THORNTON	" " "

Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form. Prayer by
Grand Chaplain.

Record of the last Quarterly Communication was
approved.

W. Grand Master announced that R.W. Br.
Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Con-

necticut, was present in the antechamber, and appointed a Committee, by whom he was introduced into the Grand Lodge, and received with due honors ; and, at a later period in the afternoon the R.W. Brothers Josiah H. Drummond and Abner B. Thompson, Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Maine, were also received in a similar manner.

W. Br. William F. Salmon was received and acknowledged as a proxy for Ancient Landmark Lodge, Shanghae, China ; and Br. Edwin W. Clark for St. Alban's Lodge, Foxboro'.

R.W. Brothers William S. Gardner, Winslow Lewis, and William D. Coolidge were appointed a Committee on Charters.

R.W. Br. William S. Gardner offered the following report on places of the Grand Officers, which was adopted :—

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 13, 1866.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of fixing and determining the places of Officers in the Grand Lodge, respectfully report—

That in general the stations of Grand Officers are well defined, and their proper places fixed by universal custom. In this Grand Lodge the stations of the Deputy Grand Master and Grand Chaplains have not been always the same, and the changes which have been made from time to time, have not always been satisfactory to the distinguished brethren respectively holding those offices.

It is well known that within the memory of many of those present, the Deputy Grand Master had his seat upon the right of the Grand Master, and the Grand Chaplains upon the left. When our R.W. Br. John T. Heard entered upon the duties of Grand Master and installed his Grand Officers, he placed the Deputy Grand Master upon his left, and his immediate predecessor, the Junior Past Grand Master, upon his right. This distinguished and learned brother had carefully studied the best authorities, as to the ancient masonic custom of Grand Lodges in regard to the stations of these Grand Officers, and had come to the firm conviction that the proper station of the Deputy Grand Master was upon the left of the Grand Master.

stitutions of 1721, by the 12th Section of General use this language: "The Grand Lodge consists of, and by the Masters and Wardens of all the regular par- es upon record, with the Grand Master at their head, ty on his left-hand, and the Grand Wardens in their ."

stitutions published by this Grand Lodge, and known of the "Harris Constitutions," copies this Section in guage.

that this was his proper and customary station in the of this Grand Lodge. For many years it was also appoint a large number of Grand Chaplains; from ld appear that no fixed place in Grand Lodge could o them all.

on of the Grand Chaplain has not been uniformly in the American Grand Lodges. In Pennsylvania, one and most conservative of the Grand Lodges, and cient forms, ceremonies, and customs have been pre- veneration, the station of the Grand Chaplain is im- front of the Grand Master, upon a raised dais a step him.

very great propriety in the official arrangement of the as prescribed by Past Grand Master Heard, with upon the left, and the Junior Past Grand Master upon the presiding officer then has his immediate predecessor whom to advise and consult in all matters relating to e of his duties. In addition to this, the arrangement system. The Grand Master sits in the East; upon the permanent members of the Grand Lodge, com- Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters and Past ens, to sustain him by their council; and upon the left ty Grand and District Deputy Grand Masters, from he jurisdiction, to aid, assist, and support him.

mittee have considered it to be fairly a part of their t upon what they consider to be the proper official tion of each Grand Officer, and they submit the fol-

THE M.W. GRAND MASTER,
In the East, at the head of the Grand Lodge.

THE R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,
In the East, next to and left of the M.W. Grand Master.

THE R.W. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,
In the West.

THE R.W. JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN,
In the South.

THE R.W. PAST GRAND MASTERS,
In the East, at the right of the M.W. Grand Master, and the Junior Past Grand Master next to the Grand Master.

THE R.W. PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,
In the East, at the right of the Past Grand Masters.

THE R.W. PAST GRAND WARDENS,
In the East, at the right of the Past Deputy Grand Masters.

THE R.W. GRAND TREASURER,
On the right, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.W. RECORDING GRAND SECRETARY,
On the left, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.W. CORRESPONDING GRAND SECRETARY,
On the left, next to the Recording Grand Secretary.

THE R.W. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,
In the East, on the left of the Deputy Grand Master.

THE W. AND REV. GRAND CHAPLAINS,
In the East, the Senior upon a raised dais in front of the Grand Master and between him and the Past Junior Grand Master; and the Junior upon a raised dais upon the left of the Grand Master and between him and the Deputy Grand Master, both being upon a lower grade than that of the Grand Master and that of the Officers upon his right and left.

THE W. GRAND MARSHAL,
Upon the left of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Secretary.

THE W. SENIOR GRAND DEACON,
Upon the right of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Treasurer.

THE W. JUNIOR GRAND DEACON,
In the West, at the right of the Senior Grand Warden.

THE W. GRAND STEWARDS,

on the right, and two upon the left of the Junior Grand Wardens on each side, one Steward in front of the other.

THE W. GRAND SWORD-BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Marshal.

THE W. GRAND STANDARD-BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Sword-Bearer.

THE W. GRAND PURSUIVANTS,

entrance to the Grand Lodge, and whose duty it is "to receive the Grand Tyler, to announce the name and masonic rank of all comers, and to see that none enter without wearing their appropriate

THE W. GRAND LECTURERS,

on the right of the Senior Grand Deacon, and the third in the line at the left of the R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

BR. GRAND ORGANIST,

At the Organ.

BR. GRAND TYLER,

outside of the entrance to the Grand Lodge.

out of place for your Committee to remark, that, a few years, it was customary for the W. Masters of Lodges to have seats assigned them in the North Lodge nearest to the East; for the Br. Wardens seated in the South nearest to the East; thus precluding as to the rank and official character of the Tyler whether this regulation was by vote of the Grand Lodge or the M.W. Grand Master, your Committee determine. If this regulation is not now in force, we recommend its immediate adoption.

Report is presented a sketch or plan showing the positions of the Officers and Members in Grand Lodge, in accordance with the recommendations herein contained. The same is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

LUCIUS R. PAIGE.

JAMES A. FOX.

R.W. Br. Henry Chickering offered the following report on Regalia, which was adopted.

BOSTON, Dec. 12, 1886.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Your Committee, to whom at the last quarterly communication was referred the subject of dress or regalia, in connection with Article VII. of Part III. of the Constitutions, have given consideration to the subject, and respectfully report —

That they find the provisions of the Constitutions with regard to the regalia of the Grand Lodge Officers specific and imperative, prescribing in detail the style of each article of regalia worn by its officers. (See Part III., Art. VII.) These provisions of the Constitutions, in relation to regalia, we understand have been copied almost entire from those of the Grand Lodge of England, and are among those ancient customs which have come down to us, perhaps we might say, almost as landmarks of the Order.

We find, however, that the regalia at present worn by the Grand Lodge Officers, does not conform to these requirements of the Constitutions which provide that "The collars of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens shall be chains of gold, or metal gilt;" and that "The collars of the other officers of the Grand Lodge shall be purple, four inches broad, with narrow edging of gold lace, and ornamented in the centre with a pomegranate embroidered in gold."

Instead of this, however, the collars at present worn by all the officers of the Grand Lodge, appointed, as well as elected (if we except the District Deputies), are chains of metal gilt. It is also true that the aprons worn do not conform to the style laid down in this article of the Constitutions, and also that the gauntlets therein provided for have been omitted. These changes are, however, of comparatively recent date, and we are told were adopted as a sort of temporary necessity. At the time of the fire in 1864, which destroyed the Winthrop-House property, with the Masonic Apartments, the regalia of the Grand Lodge was also burned. Collars and other articles, in compliance with the Constitutional provisions, could only be obtained abroad, and the rate of ex-

h, and the difficulty of obtaining them so great,
 adoption (perhaps as a sort of necessary war-
 heap chain collars and other articles now in use.
 his should have been done even temporarily, as
 sider it an unsafe precedent, and think it must
 without sufficiently considering its effect.

Grand Lodge should set an example of obedience
 Constitutions, if she expects obedience to them
 e should be a pattern of good order and regular-
 by a due regard to the laws in her own conduct
 ect obedience to them in others. In fact, we
 some of the subordinate Lodges, taking license
 of the Grand Lodge, have discarded the collar,
 e ribbon to suspend the jewel; and that others
 chain collars of white metal for those prescribed
 ns.

a strict conformity to the written law. We
 end,—

oon as the funds of the Grand Lodge will admit
 and other regalia of the officers of the Grand
 conform to the present provisions of the Con-

upplying any deficiency that may exist, the arti-
 d be made in conformity to the requirements of

the duty of the Grand Master and his Deputies
 subordinate Lodges comply with the requirements
 ns as to the style of regalia, and that hereafter
 ion of, or change in the style of collar provided
 ed.

ile, for obvious reasons, it may be proper—as
 e custom—to substitute white linen, cambric,
 aterial for the lambskin to be worn in the Lodge-
 ublic occasions the white leather apron, in con-
 style provided for in the Constitutions, should
 h Lodge should see that each member thereof is
 ch an apron.

hereafter each Lodge, at the time of initiation,

present the candidate with an apron of the style prescribed by the Constitutions, to be kept by him for use on public occasions.

Your Committee desire also to call attention to the growing custom, of persons appearing in Grand Lodge without proper clothing and insignia of office. Section 3 of the Article of the Constitutions, we have under consideration, is quite strict about this; but it is becoming more and more customary for members to disregard it, and rely upon a vote, which we think has been too readily granted, for leave to sit and act without them. We recommend a more strict conformity to the requirements of this section.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY CHICKERING.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

W. D. COOLIDGE.

The Grand Secretary announced that he had upon his desk petitions, with the accompanying documents for Charters for the following Lodges, namely, Hyde Park, Dorchester; King Philip, Fall River; Alfred Baylies, Taunton; and Adams, Wellfleet; all of which were referred to the Committee on Charters, who subsequently offered the following reports, which were adopted, to wit:—

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 13, 1866.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of certain brethren for a Charter to form and open a Lodge in that part of the town of Dorchester, Mass., called Hyde Park, by the name of Hyde Park Lodge, respectfully report—

That they have examined, with much interest, the proceedings of the brethren while under dispensation, and the By-Laws presented for approval.

The records are models of neatness, and have been kept with great care and correctness. The By-Laws are brief, and your Committee have had occasion to amend them only in one or two instances. The By-Laws make it obligatory upon the W. Master to call special meetings “on the written application of seven

This provision has been stricken out, as it interferes exclusive powers of the W. Master. It is his duty, upon judgment, to call special meetings, and the brethren of have no right or power to limit his prerogative in this

Committee recommend that a Charter be granted as

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

W. D. COOLIDGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 13, 1886.

Committee to whom was referred the petition of certain praying for a Charter empowering them to form and lodge in Fall River, Mass., by the name of King Philip respectfully report —

They have examined the proceedings of the brethren under Dispensation, and the By-Laws presented for ap-

proceedings have been carefully kept, and their neat appearance much credit upon the Secretary.

The By-Laws are very full, and your Committee find but little which is contrary to the Constitutions and usages of the where appears to be an increasing disposition to take from the By-Laws of Lodges some of their ancient prerogatives and

Such is the provision of these By-Laws, that certain officers shall be appointed by "the Master, with the advice and consent of the Wardens."

The Master is the supreme governor of his Lodge. He governs it according to his will and pleasure. He is answerable to his Lodge, but to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge. There is no appeal to the Lodge from his decisions. The Grand Lodge in its By-Laws may retain the right to elect officers, but it must be done by a general election, in which all members take part. But the appointing power cannot be divided between the W. Master and any one or two of his officers.

He must be unrestrained and untrammelled in all his appointments. His power cannot be curtailed. He must be independent and not controlled. This principle is as old as Masonry itself, so far as we know any thing of its history, by tradition or written records. It is the duty of the Grand Lodge to see that his power and authority in his Lodge are not restrained, and that his ancient prerogatives remain unabridged. Your Committee have therefore stricken out of the By-Laws presented so much as limits the appointing power of the Master.

In the article relating to election of members is a provision that the brother "must receive, by ballot, a two-third vote of the members present."

No brother should be admitted to the privileges of membership without the unanimous consent of the members of the Lodge. Any other rule might tend to disturb the peace and harmony of the brethren. One-third of the members of this Lodge might vote against an applicant for membership, and still he could be admitted to the rights, privileges, and communion of the Lodge. He might be personally obnoxious to those who voted against him, and the result of his admission would probably lead to the withdrawal of one-third of the members. It is therefore determined by masonic authority, that to preserve the peace and harmony of the Lodge, no one can be admitted a member thereof without the unanimous consent of the brethren.

Your Committee have amended the By-Laws presented accordingly. They therefore recommend that the Charter prayed for be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.
WINSLOW LEWIS.
W. D. COOLIDGE.

ALFRED BAYLIES LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 13, A.L. 5866.

Committee to whom was referred the petition of certain
praying for a Charter authorizing them to form and hold
by the name of Alfred Baylies Lodge at Taunton, Mass.,
report —

They have examined the proceedings of said brethren
their year of probation under Dispensation, and also the
presented for approval.

By-Laws show in many respects a great lack of masonic
e, and a misapprehension of the object of a masonic
By Section 3 of Article VI., it is provided that the
unanimous consent of its members, may dispense with
sion that a candidate's application must lie over one
before a ballot can be taken. It is hardly necessary
that this dispensing power exists alone in the Grand
and his Deputies, and that a Lodge has no right, even
mous vote, to dispense with any of the requirements
and Constitutions.

Next article makes provision for the postponement of a
a candidate to a subsequent meeting, if, at the bal-
one negative should appear.

settled beyond dispute, that a ballot once commenced
concluded so as to result in the acceptance or rejec-
the candidate without the introduction of any other

The candidate being rejected, his application has been
n and cannot be revived. If it is desirable to ballot
candidate again, it must be done upon a new petition,
ust be presented and take its regular course, in the
anner as if the candidate was for the first time before
e.

The same general character is an article in the fol-
language : —

It will be the duty of the Secretary to minute down the number of
resent at each balloting, either for a member or for a candidate for

initiation, or at the passing of any law; and any determination thus had shall not afterward be altered, except when an equal number of members are present and a month's notice previous to the question being called for a second time."

It was probably intended by this section to provide for the reconsideration of a question which has been acted upon by the Lodge. But this should be done at the next meeting of the Lodge after the business has been transacted, and upon notice given that a reconsideration would then be moved. Questions of importance cannot be kept open in an undecided and uncertain state. The interests of the Lodge require that there should at some time be an end to business, and that the brethren may know that there is a final disposition of it. This only applies to matters of business. To permit questions, as to the acceptance or rejection of candidates, to hang upon such loose and uncertain conditions cannot be tolerated.

Another section has this provision: —

"Should any brother have been known to speak or act disrespectfully of Masonry in general, or of this Lodge in particular, he shall not be admitted therein, either as a member or visitor, until" &c.

Any member has a right to object to a visiting brother's sitting in the Lodge, upon the general principle that a visitor cannot unseat a member. A member of a Lodge has peculiar privileges and rights, which are vested in him by virtue of his membership. Among them is the right to sit in his Lodge and enjoy the society of his brethren in open Lodge.

Of this right no member can be deprived capriciously or upon hearsay testimony. If he has done any thing to deprive him of the rights of membership, he must be charged therewith formally, and be tried therefor by his Lodge; and upon solemn judgment against him, he can be excluded from the Lodge. If during the session of the Lodge a member behaves in such a manner as to endanger its peace and harmony, the W. Master can exclude him. And undoubtedly if he should present himself at the door in such bodily condition, or with such threatening, violent, or disrespectful language, that the Master might fairly apprehend his admission would disturb the Lodge, then he un-

as the right to deny him admission, and it would be the brethren to have him forthwith brought to trial. spoken, or acts done, he is entitled to a fair trial before the rights and privileges of membership can be forfeited.

the other sections relating to the appointment of committees to investigate "any private quarrel or animosity arising between brothers, and if possible to reconcile them," and that if either shall continue to harbor unkind feelings towards the other shall have made due and proper concessions, he shall be dealt with as a majority of the Lodge thinks proper."

that brotherly love is one of the tenets of our profession, we endeavor to teach it by precept and example. The Lodge is no inquisitorial court, to sit and decide upon the feelings of its members towards each other. The giving of friendly, brotherly advice to those members who quarrel with each other, is certainly to be encouraged, and it produces the most happy results. But this cannot be done by a committee, and little good could be expected if a committee went with the olive-branch in one hand, and in the other the terrors and punishments which this section prescribes for, to one whose nature and sympathies are such that he cannot easily yield. Besides, the Lodge is to judge and not a committee upon the condition and state of his feelings, and not for what they may decide he harbors in the inmost recesses of his heart, that secret and sacred place into which no man can look, and concerning which He alone can judge. It is easily conceived that even among Masons, one brother may easily believe that he is in nowise at fault if he does harbor unkind feelings towards his brother. Let his conscience judge him, and not his fellow men.

The section of these By-Laws is couched in the following language:—

Every brother or visiting brother shall be admitted into this Lodge, if he is not in a state of intoxication, or who is in the common practice of using any spirituous or fermented drink as a beverage, or who is engaged in any illegal traffic (if known), or who does not sustain a good moral character."

The committee have already remarked upon the rights

and privileges of members, and upon the way and manner in which a brother can be deprived of his membership.

The whole subject-matter of this section is opposed to the spirit of Masonry. Temperance is one of the cardinal principles of our institution, — temperance in eating, temperance in drinking, and temperance in the indulgence of all the human passions. Masonry sets up no standard of capacity by which every brother is to be measured. What is temperance in one, may be intemperance in another. It is said that this cardinal virtue, Temperance, was formerly represented by a virgin seated upon the back of a bridled lion, and holding in her hands the reins; — a fit and appropriate emblem of this leading virtue, and from which much useful instruction may be gathered. It is worthy of consideration, that not many years since, the "practice of using intoxicating drinks as a beverage" in our Lodges was not only "common," but universal; — a practice which was "common" and general in all classes of the community. The times have changed, and we have changed with them.

A reference in this section to a subject which in this State has a political bearing deserves reprehension. The old Constitutions use this strong language: "No private picques or quarrels must be brought within the doors of the Lodge, far less any quarrels about religion, or nations, or state policy;" and in a later edition, "As political affairs have occasioned discord amongst the nearest relations and most intimate friends, Masons are enjoined never to speak of or discuss them in the Lodge." The same reasoning should exclude from the by-laws any reference to political matters. The petitioners should remember that there is a world-wide difference between the moral reform societies existing in the community, and a Masonic Lodge. Masonry is universal, and from its elevated position looks down upon the moral, political, and religious dissensions which embroil mankind and embitter their lives. She does not engage in them. She closes her doors so securely that even the noise and tumult of these contentions cannot be heard within the tyled seclusion of her Lodges. Every community, every state, every nationality has its peculiar political differences. What is orthodox in one, is very likely to be heterodox in another. What

here, may be free from crime, and even meritorious
 ends. Masonry, therefore, stands aloof from all these
 and attends exclusively to her sacred calling. Breth-
 of the Lodge can labor to reform society, and may
 rules and regulations as they may deem proper ;
 cannot be carried into the Lodge. If a member lives
 violation of the laws, or if his moral character is so bad
 ant it, he can be legally tried, and, if guilty, Masonry
 ed a punishment. This is applicable to all offences for
 s amenable to the institution. There is no reason why
 s should specify the violation of any particular law.
 are broad enough to cover all. It is the duty of
 Lodge to enforce these ancient and wise provisions
 institutions, and the brethren, who are taking upon
 the arduous task of establishing a new Lodge, should
 structured upon these necessary regulations. Your Com-
 e stricken from the by-laws this section.

records of the Lodge appear to be fairly kept. In re-
 certain transactions, there is an absence of technical
 usually used by the craft. If a Charter is granted, it
 e duty of the R.W. District Deputy Grand Master to
 this Lodge may be assigned, to give them instructions
 proper manner of keeping the records. The Lodge has
 derable work, and appears to be in a flourishing con-

ommittee would recommend that a Charter be granted,
 or ; and that the By-Laws, as amended, be approved.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 13, 1866.

ommittee to whom was referred the petition of certain
 saying for a Charter to be constituted into a regular
 Wellfleet, Mass., by the name of Adams Lodge, respect-

—

That they have carefully examined the By-Laws and proceedings of the brethren while under Dispensation.

The By-Laws presented for approval are models of brevity. Your Committee regret to observe the same attempt to limit the powers of the W. Master, which they have noticed in other reports made to the Grand Lodge this day. Section 2 provides that certain officers "shall be appointed by the Master, and confirmed by the Lodge at the annual meeting."

The W. Master has the sole exclusive power of appointing to office, and his selection cannot be affected by any act of his Lodge. When appointed by him, the officers need only to be installed to make them fully authorized to enter upon the duties of their respective stations. The W. Master cannot be curtailed in his ancient and constitutional power by any such by-law. It is true, that under the democratic system which pervades the peculiar political system under which we live in the United States, that the monarchical power of the W. Master of a Lodge is looked upon by those unacquainted with our masonic institution, as rigorous and unjust. But it is one of the great landmarks of Masonry, which we are firmly bound to sustain; and such a marked departure should not be countenanced.

Section 5 makes provision for the filling of vacancies "at the first regular meeting after they occur, by ballot or appointment, as they were originally filled."

When an officer is installed, he must retain his station until his successor is installed. A vacancy can only occur by death, or by the act of the Grand Master or the Grand Lodge, and can only be filled by Dispensation. If a vacancy is occasioned by death, the W. Master has the right, temporarily, to appoint a brother to perform the deceased's duties in the Lodge. But such brother succeeds to none of the rights and powers of the deceased officer. An election can be held to fill the vacancy only by dispensation from the Grand Master. The Lodge itself has no control over it, and cannot hold an election, save by virtue of such Dispensation.

Section 12 is as follows: "In the transaction of business, and in the discussion upon the same, this Lodge shall be governed by the ordinary usage of Parliamentary bodies."

does not recognize any such usage. Parliamentary
known in our Lodges, except so far as our own rules
each of our masonic business correspond with Parlia-
. The W. Master, as the head and governor of the
bound by any such usage as this section contem-
an stop debate when he considers it proper, and
ge at his will and pleasure. He cannot be circum-
power by any such regulation. Our Lodges need
gulate their discussions, for they are not debating,
societies; they are Masonic Lodges, and are un-
assemblies which the ingenuity of man has devised.
therefore, adopt the rules and usages of any other
society, or organization for their government. In fact,
need no reform in this particular; and the fewer of
which are necessary in order to govern debate in
—we introduce into our institution, the purer our
e.

edings of this Lodge are fairly kept, and show that
s have labored zealously during their year of Dis-
Our committee recommend that a Charter be granted
and that the By-Laws, as amended by your Com-
proved.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

W. D. COOLIDGE.

ting Committee submitted their Annual Report,
adopted.

THE ELECTION.

fixed by the Constitutions for the election of
ers having arrived, the Grand Master ordered a
e voters, from which it appeared that the whole
votes which might be legally cast was three hun-
dred and four. The Grand Master then resigned his
immediate predecessor, R.W. Brother William
who appointed R.W. Brothers William D. Cool-

idge, Solon Thornton, Brothers Little, Davis, and Jordan a Committee to collect the votes. This Committee subsequently reported that the whole number of votes cast for Grand Master was three hundred and ten, — three hundred of which were for the M.W. Brother Charles C. Dame, and he was accordingly introduced, and resumed the chair. The elections then proceeded with the following results, and with almost entire unanimity : —

R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER, of Boston . . .	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN, of Boston . . .	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN, of Boston . . .	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE, of Boston . . .	Recording Grand Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, WILLIAM SUTTON, BENJAMIN DEAN, SOLON THORNTON, RICHARD BRIGGS.

A petition for Charity, in behalf of a descendant of Henry Price, First Grand Master of America, was referred to the Committee on Charity.

W. and Rev. Br. William R. Alger submitted a motion for an appropriation in aid of the family of the late Mr. M. G. Wheelock, which was referred to the Board of Directors.

R.W. Br. William S. Gardner submitted the following report, which was adopted.

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 13, 1866.

The Committee to whom was referred a vote that "The Grand Secretary, in his notification to subordinate Lodges of any meeting of the Grand Lodge, shall include a copy of any and all proposed amendments to the Constitutions, the question of the adoption of which is to be voted upon at said meeting, respectfully report —

That the proposed vote was introduced into Grand Lodge by W. Br. Samuel B. Spooner, Master of Roswell Lee Lodge, Springfield, at the last Quarterly Communication, and was referred to a committee, of which W. Br. Spooner was Chairman.

munication, the chairman has ceased to be a member of the Lodge, his office of Master having expired. The Lodge has not been called together by the Chairman, but the majority thereof to report upon the subject. The Lodge accordingly submit the following vote, and reception.

The Grand Secretary insert in his notifications for the Grand Lodge, the Part, Article, and Section of amendment to the Grand Constitutions, which may be considered at such meetings.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.
W. D. COOLIDGE.

Henry Chickering offered the following reports, adopted; and the expulsion of Nathaniel Hayes, of South Boston, was confirmed.

IN GRAND LODGE, Boston, Dec. 13, 1866.

Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens, and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

A committee to whom was referred the proceedings of St. John's Lodge of South Boston, in relation to the expulsion of Nathaniel Hayes from Masonry, respectfully report —

They have examined the same, and although they find the same fully reported than they should be, yet from the want of proper possession, and the evidence of the Master they are satisfied the proceedings were regular; and that the action of the Lodge, expelling Nathaniel Hayes from Masonry, be confirmed.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY CHICKERING.
HENRY C. SKINNER.
GEORGE H. PEIRSON.

IN GRAND LODGE, Boston, Dec. 13, 1866.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens, and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Your Committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Ancient Landmark Lodge, Shanghae, China, in the case of Br. William Clark Walden, charged with unmasonic conduct, respectfully report —

That they have examined the ponderous documents committed to them, and find the action of the Lodge resulted only in expulsion from membership in the said Lodge, with which action this Grand Body has nothing to do.

They, therefore, recommend that the case be dismissed.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY CHICKERING.

HENRY C. SKINNER.

GEORGE H. PEIRSON.

The Committees on Charity submitted the following reports, which were adopted.

BOSTON, Dec. 12, 1866.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Committee on Charity respectfully submit the following report: —

We have received from the Grand Treasurer, as per vote of the Grand Lodge, during the past year, the sum of eighteen hundred dollars, all of which we have distributed to two hundred and four worthy applicants, in accordance with our best judgment.

SAMUEL H. GREGORY.

WILLIAM REED.

EBEN F. GAY.

L. L. TARBELL.

SPECIAL CHARITY REPORT.

The undersigned, special Committee on Charity of Grand Lodge, respectfully report —

on hand at their last Annual Report	\$286.94
ing has since been added by vote of	
e; and that they have disbursed in	
ing the past year, the sum of	281.50
aving a balance in their hands of	\$5.44

C. W. MOORE, *for Committee.*

on of R.W. Br. William Parkman, \$500 were placed in the hands of the General Committee; and on motion of R.W. Br. John McClellan, appropriated to the Special Committee on Charity

Winslow Lewis submitted the following report
ary, which was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Dec. 18, 1866.

Committee on the Library, report —

very few additions in number have been made during
t of those few procured by purchase, are some of pe-
and interest to the Masonic Bibliophile, especially
eries of the Ancient Constitutions from the *princeps*
Anderson of 1722 to 1784.

mulatum of pamphlets, &c., is large.

ber of the donors is very limited. It should not be
ubtably there is scarcely a member of the Order who
ess some work on the subject, perhaps of no espe-
a brochure or pamphlet, but added to an organized
some considerable importance. Will the brethren
d to the suggestion?

Respectfully,

WINSLOW LEWIS.

age of the proceedings, the M.W. Grand Master
that he had been commissioned by Ancient Land-
, at Shanghae, in China, a Lodge under this juris-
resent to W. Br. Charles E. Hill, the first Mas-

ter and founder of said Lodge, a Past Master's jewel, with a collar and apron appropriate to such an officer. Br. Hill was accordingly introduced, and addressed by the Grand Master as follows :—

W. Br. CHARLES E. HILL, — It gives me great satisfaction to inform you that I have been deputed, as Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, to present to you certain tokens of the esteem in which you are held by the brethren of Ancient Landmark Lodge of Shanghae, China ; a lodge chartered under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

In the performance of our duty to aid in extending the blessings and benefits of Freemasonry among the worthy of all nations, and to secure them to those of the craft who have pitched their tents in distant lands, where the rite we profess has not yet received the local organization requisite for self-government, this Grand Lodge, on due petition, granted, during the official career of my predecessor, first, a dispensation, and then a charter, to certain American brethren of the craft, resident at Shanghae, in the Empire of China, authorizing them to form the Ancient Landmark Lodge, with full powers to practise the usages and institutions of Ancient York Masonry, under the protection, and according to the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge.

You, worshipful brother, had the honor to be their first Master ; and, nursed by your care, fortified by your bright example in masonic virtues, trained by your consummate knowledge of the mysteries of the craft, and guided by your prudence and wisdom, the Ancient Landmark Lodge has attained high excellence in Freemasonry, and enjoyed a prosperity which has given fame to them and to yourself.

This Grand Lodge looks with no small degree of pride to the success of the first American Lodge in the great region of Asia, lying east of the Cape of Good Hope. Coming from the West, you have planted the banners of light and truth in that Oriental and flowery empire, where, under God's grace, they shall be a landmark in all future time.

The brethren of Ancient Landmark Lodge feel more indebted to you, my brother, than they can well express in language.

in directions, this jewel and this regalia have been
 by cunning artists, and graven with inscriptions of their
 This Past Master's jewel, made of Oriental gold, in
 of those worn by our Past Masters, and blazing
 onds which might adorn the tiara of a king, they pre-
 , as the insignium of your rank. This collar and this
 alia of your degree, furnished in the best style of deco-
 known to the workers in embroidery of modern days,
 resent, and entreat you to wear on all fitting occasions
 kes, that you may feel that they are with you in spirit,
 you in the bonds of masonic friendship and gratitude.
 my congratulations, my brother, on the splendor of
 t. Let your future aspirations for a perfect knowledge
 great truths of Masonry pervade your soul, as the rays
 rade this diamond; and so continue in your masonic
 t your actions shall always, like this pure gold, embel-
 masonic life, and testify in the end, before the Supreme
 of the universe, for your exceeding great reward.

in conclusion of this address, W. Br. Hill acknowl-
 appropriate terms, the handsome compliment thus
 and gracefully bestowed on him. He briefly referred
 y connection with the Lodge in China, and the inter-
 taken, and should always feel, in its prosperity.
 feelingly of the kind consideration in which he had
 held by the brethren composing it, and of the
 regret with which he parted from them. He also
 the M.W. Grand Master for the fraternal manner in
 rich and beautiful present had been conveyed to him,
 ended with the assurance that the occasion would be
 up in his heart as one of the most pleasing and
 incidents of his life.

Jewel was of fine gold, and richly studded with dia-
 The collar and apron were of heavy silk, richly and
 y wrought with silver lace, and bordered with deep
 the same material. Taken together, it was probably

the richest and most expensive regalia of the kind ever manufactured in this country.

At the conclusion of this ceremony the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form, with prayer by the Senior Grand Chaplain, until nine o'clock on the following morning, when it again assembled for the exemplification of the work by the Grand Lecturers, and continued in session during the entire day. It was estimated that there were at least seven hundred brethren present, including the Masters and Wardens of Lodges from all parts of the Commonwealth. Six hundred and forty dined together in the masonic rooms.

But one expression was heard respecting the work, and that was of unqualified praise of the excellent manner in which the Grand Lecturers had discharged their arduous and responsible duties during the day.

At half-past five o'clock the Grand Lodge was closed, and the brethren retired.

STATED COMMUNICATION,

Dec. 27, A.L. 5866.

COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE
 USETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall, No. 10
 et, Boston, on Thursday, Dec. 27, A.L. 5866,
 ation of its Officers, and the Celebration of the
 . John the Evangelist.

Present.

PARKMAN	as	Grand Master.
SUTTON	. . . . .	Senior Grand Warden.
MARSHALL	. . . . .	Junior Grand Warden.
LELLAN	. . . . .	Grand Treasurer.
W. MOORE	. . . . .	Recording Grand Secretary.
L. WOODBURY	. . . . .	Cor. Grand Secretary.
M R. ALGER,	{	Grand Chaplains.
V. DADMUN,		
OLIVER	. . . . .	Senior Grand Deacon.
	. . . . .	Junior Grand Deacon.
ARNES,	{	Grand Stewards.
ENEY,		
YWOOD	. . . . .	Grand Pursuivant.
CROFT,	{	Grand Lecturers.
PE,		
S	. . . . .	Grand Organist.
T	. . . . .	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

FOX	. . . . .	District No. 1.
PIERSON	. . . . .	District No. 2.
BISHOP	. . . . .	District No. 3.
SKINNER	. . . . .	District No. 4.
R. GAY	. . . . .	District No. 5.
DITT	. . . . .	District No. 6.
CRAFTS	. . . . .	District No. 10.
RBORN	. . . . .	District No. 11.
MPSON	. . . . .	District No. 12.

. PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	Past Grand Master
R.W. G. W. WARREN	Past Deputy Grand Master
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	Past Grand Warder
R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Due Form at six o'clock, with Prayer by the Senior Grand Chaplain.

The R.W. Grand Master presiding, announced the order of the meeting to be the Installation of the Officers. He then appointed R.W. Brothers Gardner, Warren, Salmon, and Walker a Committee to introduce the M.W. C. DAME, Grand Master elect, for installation; and accordingly introduced, installed, and saluted in Ancient Form. The Grand Master then proceeded to install the elected Officers, and announced the appointments for the ensuing year as follows:—

R.W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON, Boston . . .	Deputy Grand Master
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY, Boston . . .	Cor. Grand Secretary
W. REV. WILLIAM R. ALGER, Boston, }	Grand Chaplains
W. REV. JOHN W. DADMUN, Boston, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON, Melrose . . .	Grand Marshal.
W. TIMOTHY INGRAHAM, New Bedford . . .	Grand Sword-Bearer
W. CLEMENT A. WALKER, South Boston . .	Senior Grand Deacon
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS, Malden	Junior Grand Deacon
W. EDWARD STEARNS, Boston,	Grand Stewards.
W. H. H. F. WHITTEMORE, M.D., Marblehead, }	
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, Lowell,	
W. ARTHUR CHENEY, Boston,	
W. NICHOLAS JOHNSON, Newburyport . . .	Grand Standard-Bearer
W. J. EDWARD EVERETT, South Dedham, }	Grand Pursuivants
W. CHARLES HEYWOOD, Gardner,	
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, South Groton, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. L. H. GAMWELL, Pittsfield,	
W. IVORY H. POPE, Boston,	
Br. JOHN B. RHODES, Boston	Grand Organist.
Br. C. C. WENTWORTH, Boston	Grand Chorister.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

A. FOX, Boston	District No. 1.
HEARBORN, Melrose	District No. 2.
BRIGHAM, Auburndale	District No. 3.
ENDICOTT, Cambridgeport	District No. 4.
H. PIERSON, Salem	District No. 5.
A. BISHOP, Lawrence	District No. 6.
S. KIMBALL, Lowell	District No. 7.
E. F. CONKEY, Amherst	District No. 8.
CHICKERING, Pittsfield	District No. 9.
W. CRAFTS, Northampton	District No. 10.
W. MURDITT, Clinton	District No. 11.
C. SKINNER, Milford	District No. 12.
N. R. GAY, Stoughton	District No. 13.
H. TABER, Fairhaven	District No. 14.
S. POPE, Hyannis	District No. 15.
W. C. KNEEL, Weymouth	District No. 16.

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY.

LEWIS, CHARLES. W. MOORE, WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

COMMITTEE ON CHARITY.

WELLS, CHARLES W. MOORE, MARLBOROUGH WILLIAMS,
E. M. P. WELLS.

W. Grand Master having installed his Deputy,
proceeded to install the remainder of the ap-
pears; after which the Grand Marshal made the
nimation.

Grand Master then delivered his —

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

OF THE GRAND LODGE, — In the original Charter,
tion," as it was then called, granted by Lord Monta-
Master of the Grand Lodge of England, in 1733,
the R.W. Henry Price to open and hold a Provin-
Lodge for New England, it being the first establish-
ment on the American Continent, I find the following
and lastly, we *will* and *require* that our said Provincial

Grand Master of New England, do *annually* cause the brethren to keep the FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, and dine together on that day, or (in case any accident should happen to prevent their dining together on that day) on any other day near that time."

I find also in the first Book of Masonic Constitutions ever printed, and which was originally published by authority of the Grand Lodge of England in 1722, the following regulation, it being the twenty-second of the well-known "Thirty-nine Articles" adopted in 1720, to wit: "The brethren of all the Lodges in and about London and Westminster, *shall* meet at an Annual Communication and Feast, in some convenient place, on *St. John Baptist's day*, or else on *St. John Evangelist's day*, as the Grand Lodge shall think fit by a new regulation, having of late years met on *St. John Baptist's day*." The record also shows that the Grand Lodge frequently, subsequent to this, assembled and held the "Grand Feast" on both the *St. Johns' days*, in the same year; and if we turn over the pages of the previous history of the Order in England, we shall find that this custom of assembling on one or the other of these days, to celebrate the FEAST, is of much older date than that of the origin of our venerable mother Grand Lodge; and indeed, that the circumstance, that the custom of holding the "Annual Feast" on *St. John's day* had fallen into abeyance, was one of the primary causes which led to the establishment of the Grand Lodge in London, in 1717.

I am not able to say at what precise time, or under what circumstances, the custom of holding these annual *St. John Feasts* originated; but we learn from the history of the Order in England, that on *St. John's day*, Dec. 27, 1561, the Grand Lodge being assembled at the old city of York, Queen Elizabeth, "jealous of all secret assemblies," "sent an armed force" to break up the meeting. The meeting, however, was not broken up, nor was its business otherwise interfered with than by the initiation of the officers of the "armed force" referred to! The Grand Lodge continued thereafter to hold its Annual Assemblies and Feasts on *St. John's day*, without interruption, and we find

years afterwards, namely, 1663, in session on St. Andrew's day, under the Grand Mastership of the Grand Lodge, when the following among other regulations were adopted: 'That for the future the said Fraternity of Free Masons be regulated and governed by one Grand Master, and that the said society shall think fit to appoint a General Assembly.'

Since that time, for more than three centuries at least in the recent period, it was the practice of our English Grand Lodges at their Annual Assembly and Feast, on one or the other of St. John's days, in honor of the virtues and excellencies of these two eminent patrons of our Order, to multiply the ceremonies; but it is not necessary to do so. My duty is fulfilled when I have demonstrated the antiquity of our Institution and indicated our own obligations to follow it, as handed down on the fathers of our beloved Grand Lodge, which gave them existence, and which their successful fidelity worthy of the highest commendation, have preserved and performed to the present time. And we are now and here assembled, in the light of the same old landmark of our fathers, and by the same old landmarks, to make manifest the love and veneration in our hearts for their memories and their examples.

UNIVERSALITY OF MASONRY.

That our institution is a Universal Fraternity; and that it is true, and perhaps never more so than at the present time. It is as wide-spread as the area of human sympathy; wherever civilization has extended, there is the banner of Masonry waving in the breeze. In the farthest India; in the Empire of China; in Japan; at the Sandwich Islands; along the shores of the Pacific, from Cape Horn to the northern boundary of the United States; and in the interior, where, but a few years since the voice of the Indian was in reality a voice in the wilderness; along the Nile, and even on the shores of the Barbary Coast again, to the borders of the Arctic Ocean, is

heard the sound of the gavel calling the craftsmen to labor. And there is scarcely a State in Western or Central Europe, where our brethren are not to-day assembling in their Lodge Rooms, and practising those mystic rites, and inculcating those great moral and beneficent truths, which, through a long succession of ages, have given stability to our institution, and commanded for it the respect and admiration of the wise and good of all nations and tongues.

Turning to our own country, we find the land dotted all over with Masonic Lodges. In the whole of the thirty-six States, in the District of Columbia, and in two or more of the Territories, Grand Lodges have been established, with thriving Lodges under their respective jurisdictions; and in several of the remaining Territories, including New Mexico, subordinate Lodges have also been erected.

THE ORDER IN MASSACHUSETTS.

In our own State the Order never before occupied so high a ground, and was never in a more sound and healthy condition. With one hundred and sixty Lodges under its jurisdiction, and an enrolled membership of more than sixteen thousand brethren, carefully selected from the best classes of the community, this Grand Lodge may justly feel proud of its position, and confidence in its strength.

The past year has been one of unceasing activity, and has devolved upon your Grand Master and his officers labors and duties of unequalled responsibility, the nature of which may be partially, and but partially, inferred from the details I now proceed to lay before you.

Jan. 4. — Dedicated a New Masonic Hall at Cambridgeport, and installed the officers of Amicable Lodge.

Jan. 8. — Installed the officers of Mount Lebanon Lodge at Boston.

Jan. 12. — Constituted Saggahew Lodge at Haverhill, and installed its officers.

Jan. 12. — Granted a Dispensation to Br. John H. Eddy and thirty-two others to form a new Lodge at Taunton, to be called Alfred Baylies Lodge.

Jan. 16. — Granted a Dispensation to Br. James F. Frothingham and thirty-four others to form a new Lodge at Fall River, to be called King Philip Lodge.

installed the officers of Essex Lodge at Salem.
 Constituted Mount Hollis Lodge at Holliston, and installed its
 dedicated their new hall.
 granted a Dispensation to Br. E. P. Davis and twenty others to
 dge at Hyde Park, to be called Hyde Park Lodge.
 installed the officers of Mount Hermon Lodge at Medford.
 The Masonic Hall at Melrose having been destroyed by fire,
 s granted to Wyoming Lodge to hold their meetings in the
 at Malden, until other convenient arrangements could be made.
 Granted a Dispensation to Br. John Thomas Lansing, the
 sul, and nineteen others, to form a new Lodge at Arica in the
 eru, in South America; and appointed Br. Richard Hartley
 W. District Deputy Grand Master for that region.
 - Installed the officers of St. John's Lodge at Newburyport.
 - Granted a Dispensation to Br. Salmon W. Squire and seven
 a new Lodge at Franklin, to be called Excelsior Lodge.
 Granted a Dispensation to Br. William F. Salmon and twenty-
 form a new Lodge at Lowell, to be called Kilwinning Lodge.
 Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Randolph.
 Granted a Dispensation to Br. George Frost and thirty-four
 a new Lodge at Jamaica Plain, to be called Eliot Lodge.
 Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at South Boston.
 Visited Konohassett Lodge, U.D., at Cohasset.
 Granted a Dispensation to Br. George Forbes and twenty-one
 a new Lodge at Westboro', to be called Siloam Lodge.
 Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Framingham, after which a
 was delivered in the church by Rev. Br. Greenwood.
 Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at North Adams. In connec-
 occasion there was great interest manifested by members of the
 siderable distance, and a public procession escorted the Grand
 urch, where Rev. Br. Dadmun, Grand Chaplain of the Grand
 ed an address to a large and interested audience.
 Laid the corner-stone of a new Masonic Building at Melrose,
 ceremonies. Although the day was oppressively hot, the pub-
 was large, and the occasion one of great interest.
 Constituted Konohassett Lodge at Cohasset, and installed its
 dedicated their new hall.
 Constituted Lafayette Lodge at Roxbury, and installed its offi-
 Constituted Athelstane Lodge at Worcester, and installed its
 Constituted Acacia Lodge at Gloucester, and installed its offi-
 Granted a Dispensation to Br. John Peirce and nineteen others
 Lodge at Edgartown, to be called Oriental Lodge.

July 24. — Dedicated a Masonic Hall at Mansfield, and installed the officers of St. James Lodge.

Sept. 21. — Constituted James Otis Lodge at Barnstable, and installed its officers.

Sept. 25. — Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Taunton.

Oct. 1. — Visited St. John's Lodge at Boston.

Oct. 4. — Constituted Adelphi Lodge at South Boston, and installed its officers.

Oct. 9. — Constituted Charles W. Moore Lodge at Fitchburg, and installed its officers.

Oct. 11. — Installed the officers of Warren Lodge at Amesbury.

Oct. 19. — Constituted Artisan Lodge at Winchendon, and installed its officers.

Oct. 24. — Installed the officers of Henry Price Lodge at Charlestown.

Oct. 25. — Granted a Dispensation to Br. Harman Hall and eleven others to form a new Lodge at Saugus, to be called William Sutton Lodge.

Nov. 13. — Granted a Dispensation to Br. William D. Kites and eighteen others to form a new Lodge at Huntington, to be called Huntington Lodge.

Nov. 27. — Visited Joseph Warren Lodge at Boston.

Dec. 18. — Constituted King Philip Lodge at Fall River, and installed its officers.

Dec. 20. — Visited the Lodge of Eleusis at Boston, and installed its officers.

Dec. 21. — Constituted Hyde Park Lodge at Hyde Park, and installed its officers.

In discharging these duties, I have, in most cases, been assisted by the regular Officers of the Grand Lodge, so far as their assistance was necessary in the ceremonies to be performed.

The great interest which is felt by officers of Lodges throughout our jurisdiction, in the proper discharge of their various duties, and the earnest desire on the part of the fraternity at large to remove doubts, and establish in their minds the true principles of our Order, have been manifested during the past year by a very extensive correspondence; and I have found it difficult, in many cases, on account of the important interests of the Corporation, which have required daily attention, in addition to my other duties, to give as early answers to the brethren as I desired; but all has been done in this respect that reasonable hours and labor would allow.

THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE.

on the New Masonic Temple was recommenced spring, and has been continued with all the energy at that time. I have spent a considerable portion of my day upon the premises and in matters relating to the building. It is now rapidly approaching its completion and I have no doubt it will be ready to be dedicated in June next. It is not surpassed in beauty by any building in this country, and while it attracts the attention and admiration of all who pass it, the members of our Lodge find especial pleasure in its peculiar features, and look with much interest to its completion, and with satisfaction to the day when the Grand Lodge can enter its session and enjoyment of their own apartments.

originally contemplated to use the first and second stories for business purposes; but it appeared to be the general opinion of the fraternity that the apartments of the Grand Lodge should be higher than the second story; arrangements have been made, that all above the first story may be applied to masonic purposes, and if it should not be so restricted may be assigned to other uses. The lower part of the building has already been leased, and the Masonic Lodge of Boston will occupy the upper portions.

from recent sales of real estate in the immediate neighborhood upon which we are building has more than doubled in value since the commencement of the work; and when the building is completed the whole estate will be one of the most valuable in the city of Boston, and the income which will be derived from it will be such as to make the investment a very desirable one for the Grand Lodge, as a business operation.

LIQUIDATION OF THE DEBT.

In the liquidation of the debt that will be incurred in the building of the Temple, I would suggest that a sinking fund be created, to be applied to that purpose. This fund should be derived from the surplus income of the Grand Lodge from its own sources, after paying the interest on its debt

and meeting its current expenses. In addition to this, I would recommend that each initiate, hereafter, be required to pay directly to the Grand Lodge, through the treasurer of the Lodge where he is initiated, the sum of five dollars, to be applied to the payment of this debt, or added to the sinking fund for that purpose. By this arrangement the Grand Lodge would, in a few years, have their entire property free from all incumbrance, and the subordinate Lodges would be relieved of a large portion of their annual dues to the Grand Body. Abundant means would also thereafter be realized to enable us to dispense our charities with a liberal hand.

GRAND ORIENT OF LUSITANIA.

I have recently received from the Count of Paraty, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Lusitania, in Portugal, a friendly communication, proposing "the establishment of fraternal relations" between that Grand Body and our own. Believing that the reciprocity of such relations would be of advantage to both parties, and productive of good to the Order in general, I, on the first of December, returned a favorable answer, accepting the proposals thus fraternally tendered. Before laying the correspondence before you, I take occasion to say, that for more than half a century past, our Order, both in Portugal and Spain, as in some other Catholic countries, has had many adverse circumstances to contend with, and that its existence has been precarious and its progress slow. I ~~am~~ happy to believe, however, that the ultra-religious prejudices of these countries are gradually giving way before the reign of a more liberal spirit, and that the prospects of the future are more hopeful and encouraging. Perhaps one of the strongest assurances of this is to be found in the fact that Italy has not only been masonically redeemed, but that in the city of Rome itself, the seat of the Papal power, one or more Lodges are now held within the shadow of the Vatican, and that the music of the mystic gavel is ringing in the ears of the "Head of the Church!"

The correspondence is as follows : —

GLORY OF THE SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

*Respectable Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Boston, State of
Massachusetts, sent by the Grand Master of the Grand Orient Lusitania.*

SALUT, FRATERNITE, AND UNITE.

VARIOUS FRERE, — The Grand Orient Lusitania, of Portugal, existence legitimately to its historical precedents, to the regulation, and to its invariable exercise of the fundamental masonic sphere of the landmarks of the Order, finds itself at liberty and bound in active and intimate relations with the Grand Orient of Portugal, Brazil, Saxony, Italy, Buenos Ayres, Ireland, Uruguay, Hamburg, Low Countries, Darmstadt, and New Grenada. The Grand Orient Lusitania does not think the apogee of Masonry will be reached until all the family of the Universe shall recognize all its rights. To obtain this, it is necessary that fraternal relations shall be maintained by the legitimate masonic powers. In this position, the Lusitanian Grand Orient does not hesitate in its relations with the Grand Orient of Boston, and doing entire justice to the sentiments which animate them, proposes to them the establishment of fraternal relations, formed upon the basis of a perfect reciprocity. The Grand Orient of Boston feels happy in the hope that the Grand Orient of Portugal, in acceding to this request, will frankly accept the evidence and justice which this Grand Lodge offers to it. The Supreme Architect of the Universe to keep under his eye the Grand Orient of Boston.
Cabinet of the Grand Master, the 4th December, 1865.

THE GRAND MASTER,

signed, THE COUNT OF PARATT, 83°. [SEAL.]

R E P L Y.

TO THE SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE.

*Respectable Grand Master of the Grand Orient Lusitania,
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient, Free, and Accepted
Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

VARIOUS BROTHER, — The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in its practice and observance of the precepts of Ancient York Masonry, whose historical precedents are known to its masonic brethren, with emotion the expressions of the good-will and esteem of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts at Lusitania. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts accepts of the basis offered by the Grand Orient Lusitania, a power which is sovereign in that circle of masonic brotherhood, whose enlight-

ened sentiments of justice, fraternity, and union, are inspired by a profound conviction of the truth of the principles of Freemasonry.

The Grand Master of Massachusetts has received the evidence of the friendship and esteem of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient Lusitania, and desires to assure the Grand Master Lusitania, that he reciprocates the same sentiments with all frankness and consideration; and he congratulates the Grand Orient Lusitania and its illustrious officers, on their success in extending the influence of the sublime principles of virtue, and in promoting the stability and consideration of the institutions of Freemasonry within their jurisdiction.

We pray the Supreme Architect of the Universe to have you always in his holy keeping. •

Done at the Grand Orient of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, December 1, 1866.

THE GRAND MASTER,
Signed, CHARLES C. DAME, 33°. [SEAL.]

GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

I also received, some time since, a communication signed by three brethren, styling themselves respectively, Grand Master, Grand Registrar, and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, in which the writers say, that "The Freemasons of Nova Scotia, to the number of ten Lodges, having united in the establishment of a Grand Lodge at Nova Scotia, in order to insure the rights and privileges which the growing interests of the craft imperatively demand, and having duly and regularly installed their officers according to ancient usage, now respectfully and earnestly request from your august Body that recognition so essential to our future prosperity."

It may be proper for me here to say, that the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland constitute, masonically speaking, a joint proprietary over the Province of Nova Scotia, as also over all the other Provinces and dependencies of the British Crown (with one exception recently conceded), with an exclusive right to control and govern the Lodges within their respective jurisdictions; and any interference by a foreign body with this right would be as irregular and unlawful as would be the interference of either of the Grand Lodges above named with the government of the masonic jurisdictions of the United States. The ten Lodges, which now constitute the newly

and Lodge of Nova Scotia," derived their existence and Lodge of Scotland, a body with which this Grand Lodge, nearly a century and a half, has been on terms of amity. These Lodges owe allegiance to that Grand Lodge, which they have not been released; nor can they, by any act of their own, release themselves, by secession and revolution. This relation they have maintained, and now occupy, and they ask this Grand Lodge to recognize them as a regularly constituted and lawful Grand Lodge."

The speaker called upon to inquire into the causes which have led to this result, nor to discuss the sufficiency of them to justify the action in its character and influences. These matters are not that properly, if not exclusively, belong to the Grand Lodge of Scotland. When that Grand Body shall have considered and seen fit to recognize the new organization as a Grand Lodge, this Grand Lodge will, I have no doubt, be most happy to extend to it the "right-hand of fellowship." I will, however, submit the whole subject, with the accompanying papers, to the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

LOCAL MATTERS. — REJECTIONS.

I would now like to draw your attention to some matters of local interest, if not of more importance to our immediate concerns, but my engagements, masonic and otherwise, have been so numerous and pressing of late as not to afford me the opportunity to mature them. I may however say, *currently*, that the number of initiates the past year has been 2,311, as against the number initiated in the previous year 593. The number of rejections have been 1,051, less by 88 than in the previous year.

From these data that about one-third of all who are presented for admission to our Lodges, are rejected. This is a high proportion; and the logical deduction from it is, that many are rejected from improper motives, or that our brethren are careless in bringing forward candidates for admission. Both of these causes are in operation, and have

combined to produce this remarkable result, I have reason to believe. Several instances have come to my knowledge where the work of individual Lodges has been greatly retarded, or entirely suspended, through the factious and unmasonic conduct of one or more of their members, who, availing themselves of the sacred privilege of the secret ballot, have resorted to the black-ball as a cowardly means of gratifying a personal pique or a revengeful spirit, excited perhaps by the previous rejection of a friend, or disappointment in the result of an election, or in carrying some favorite measure. Such a course of proceeding is no less unmasonic than ungenerous and unmanly. It does a personal injustice to the candidate, while it strikes with a reckless hand at the prosperity of the Lodge. A member of a Lodge so conducting himself, incurs, and should be visited with severe masonic discipline, if detected.

PROPOSING CANDIDATES.

The second branch of the predicate, namely, that the brethren are too careless in bringing forward candidates, I do not feel at liberty to pass over in silence. It has been said, and the saying is a self-evident proposition, that the strength of our institution does not consist in the *number*, but in the *character* of its members. Brethren labor under a very serious misapprehension of their duty, when they solicit, or hold out inducements of any kind for young men to enter our Lodges. The candidate should come forward of his own free will and accord, uninfluenced by the voice of friendship, or considerations of personal interest, or he should not come forward at all. The Constitutions of the Grand Lodge furnish the form of a petition, which every applicant for admission to the Order is required to sign, and by means of which *alone* he can lawfully make his wishes known to the Lodge. A verbal proposition made by a member is neither regular, proper, nor lawful; and the Master of a Lodge should never entertain a petition coming in such a shape. The application should be in writing, under the proper signature of the applicant, and bearing the recommendation of at least one member of the Lodge to which it is submitted; and were this petition

as to require the recommendation of at least *three* of the Lodge, the requirement would be more nearly in accordance with the former usages of Masonry, and afford assurance that the candidate is worthy of acceptance.

RE-PROPOSING CANDIDATES.

practice has obtained in this connection, which I deem corrected. I refer to the re-proposing of candidates when rejected. It has been the custom in many of our Lodges for some friend of the candidate to rise, immediately after the announcement of the unfavorable result of the ballot, and to re-propose the candidate, to be again balloted for at the next meeting of the Lodge; and this has been allowed. But it is wholly unauthorized by the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, or the usages of Masonry. The rejection removes the candidate from before the Lodge, and places the candidate in a neutral status. If he desires to offer his name again, he must do so by a new petition and recommendation, as in the case of a new candidate. It is due to the candidate that he should be allowed to do so, as a matter of so much importance to his feelings, if he has any, and to his reputation, and it is due to the credit of the Lodge that it should do so, and not, through inattention or carelessness, disregard the moral requirements of the Grand Lodge. I recommend this matter to the careful consideration of the Lodges.

THE DISTRICTS.

and it is necessary, as a matter of convenience and efficiency, to re-district the jurisdiction, and to increase to a certain extent the number of the Districts. It is some years since the present Districts were formed; and, owing to the rapid increase of the Lodges, and the great changes which have taken place in the population of the country, the labor of travelling, the labors and expenses of the Deputies, have become both inconvenient to them and burdensome to the Grand Lodge. In laying out the new Districts, we have had special reference to the facilities for travelling, and to the Lodges in any given part of the Commonwealth, and to the Districts, as far as practicable, on the lines

of the railroads. This will enable the District Deputy Grand Masters to visit their Lodges more frequently, and with less inconvenience to themselves than they have heretofore been able to do; and I trust that, it may also prove a saving of expense in this admirable and efficient department of our organization.

CONCLUSION.

Thus, brethren, closes the one hundred and thirty-third, and we are to-night entering upon the one hundred and thirty-fourth year of our existence as a Grand Lodge. The record of the Past is before us. What that of the Future shall be, depends, under God's Providence, upon us and our successors. If we are true to the teachings of the past, and faithful to the landmarks which our fathers have left for our direction and guidance, it will be well. If, on the contrary, we allow ourselves to be shaken by every wind of doctrine, and blown about like the leaves of autumn, it will be otherwise. Let us then, unitedly and heartily resolve to hand down to our successors this good old Grand Lodge, with its teachings, its principles, and its Freemasonry, unshaken in its integrity, and unsullied in its purity, just as we received it at the hands of the venerable and honored brethren who first erected the masonic altar on the soil of America. Let us do this faithfully and conscientiously, and the blessing of God will continue to abide with us as it abode with our fathers.

At the conclusion of the Address, it was, on motion of R.W. Br. William S. Gardner, referred to the mover and R.W. Brothers Woodbury and Dean.

W. Br. Alger moved an appropriation in aid of the family of the late Mr. Moses G. Wheelock, Architect of the new Temple, which was referred to the Board of Directors.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form; and the brethren repaired in procession to the Banqueting Hall to celebrate the "Annual Feast" of St. John the Evangelist.

A D D E N D A.

A D D E N D A.

GRAND LODGE OF THE NETHERLANDS.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the GRAND LODGE
1866, R.W. Past Grand Master Dr. LEWIS, in
the approaching celebration by the Grand Orient
of the semi-centennial anniversary of the
Mastership of His Royal Highness PRINCE FRED-
ERICK of Holland, offered a series of congratu-
lations, which were adopted, and ordered to be
sent to the Grand Secretary, R.W. Br. NOORDZIEK,
The Hague. It was then supposed that the celebration
would take place in May following, but it appears that it did
not take place until the 27th November last. The resolu-
tion found on page twelve of the foregoing Proceed-
ings, when they were printed, an official acknowledgment of
the same by the Grand Orient of the Netherlands has
been published. Believing that it would be of interest to the
Members of its early publication in connection with the resolu-
tion (to which reference may be made as above) appro-
priate to the whole correspondence is here given, in advance of
its publication to the Grand Lodge :—

Boston, June 1, 1866.

J. J. F. NOORDZIEK, Esq.,
Grand Secretary Grand Orient of the Netherlands.

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — Accompanying this letter is a document from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, embracing some resolutions which I had the honor to propose in relation to your illustrious Grand Master PRINCE FREDERICK, and which met a hearty response from all the brethren.

Will you have the kindness to present this manifestation of the high respect of his Transatlantic brothers to His Highness, with the personal assurances of the high consideration of

His humble masonic coadjutor,

WINSLOW LEWIS,
Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

A N S W E R.

To the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

WORSHIPFUL AND DEAR BRETHREN, — On the occasion of the semi-centennial jubilee of His Royal Highness PRINCE FREDERICK of the Netherlands, as National Grand Master of this Kingdom, its Colonies and Dependencies, which was celebrated in the most imposing and solemn manner on the 27th November last, you have manifested by your truly fraternal expressions, addressed to the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, and to the Order in general in these realms, all your sympathy on an event as remarkable as it is unparalleled in the annals of masonic history. Your felicitations and demonstrations of interest shown on the occasion made the most profound impression on the assembly of the Grand Lodge, and have excited their warmest gratitude towards your Grand Lodge, which has furnished a most evident proof of your brotherly sentiments.

We have been directed by the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands to forward you the expression of their thanks for your fraternal remembrance. They thank you most cordially for this act of fellowship, and unite and pray for the prosperity of the Order throughout your whole country, and of all its members.

document sent by you to the Illustrious Prince (Juberlaire)
presented in your name to His Royal Highness, who, in
it, assures you that he has been profoundly touched by
of esteem and kindness, and that he will ever preserve
most precious souvenir.

the name of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands,

F. A. VAN RAPPART,

National Deputy Grand Master.

NORDZIEK,

Grand Secretary.

st December, 1866.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

FIRST DISTRICT.

C. DAME, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

MY BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit the statistical report of the condition and standing of the Lodges comprising the First Masonic District, and the work for the year ending Sept. 1, 1866 : —

Degrees.	Where Holden.	Date of Charter.	Initiations.	Rejections.	No. of Members
. . .	Boston	1738	29	13	327
. . .	"	1756	4	0	44
. . .	"	1801	19	11	291
. . .	Brighton	1819	13	4	69
. . .	Waltham	1820	12	14	107
. . .	East Boston	1846	32	24	217
. . .	" "	1853	20	20	147
. . .	Boston	1856	20	2	56
. . .	"	1857	16	6	164
. . .	Watertown	1857	9	8	102
. . .	East Boston	1860	13	2	60
. . .	Belmont	1865	9	0	20
			196	104	1,604

of initiations, although seventy-three less than in year, have furnished sufficient work for most of the number of rejections, being about one-third of those the degrees, is, in my judgment, too large. There ord in the Lodges whose record thus shows, or error

in the judgment of the Masons who propose for the masonic degrees unworthy candidates.

I would draw your attention to one other point, as suggested by the preceding table. We have there recorded one hundred and ninety-six initiates, and but an increase of ninety-three in the column of members; making a liberal allowance for removals from the jurisdiction and deaths, and the conclusion to be arrived at is that full seventy-five newly made Masons in the District are not affiliates; other Districts probably show a like result. In view of the fact that masonic duties are better discharged, and its burdens more equally borne in connection with a Lodge, we see the importance of the question.

The marked improvement in every Lodge throughout the District, in the working of the several degrees, merits commendation, and I take great pleasure in officially reporting the fact.

Dispensations have been granted in two instances only to initiate candidates out of the regular course, both to Mount Tabor Lodge of East Boston, in the cases of Edmund Burke and Benjamin A. Goodwin, who were proposed at a regular meeting.

Thanking you for an appointment which has afforded me so many occasions for pleasant social converse with my brethren,

I remain very truly and fraternally yours,

JAMES A. FOX,

D. D. G. M. First Masonic District.

BOSTON, Dec. 18, 1866.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Masonic District.

pleasure to state that all the Lodges in this
erous and flourishing condition ; and while
s exceeds that of any previous year, the
convinces me that the Lodges have scru-
ter of the applicants for admission.

I have reminded the brethren of the im-
g the true character of those who seek to
Order, and to allow none but the best of
ced into our Temple ; also the necessity of
are admitted, to enable them to understand
our Order, and to require real proficiency
condition of his advancement.

giving the name and location of the Lodges
, the number of members and number of
, will enable you to form an idea of the
, and the amount of work they have per-

Location.	No. of Members.	No. of Initiates.
Marblehead	86	11
Newburyport	199	14
Gloucester	180	19
Salem	180	18
Newburyport	185	81
South Danvers	91	11
Beverly	141	18
Lynn	169	84
Amesbury	121	17
Rockport	94	23
Danvers	102	19
Salem	67	12
Lynn	72	17
Ipswich	56	24
Gloucester	19	20
	1,662	278

ws an increase, compared with the preced-
ed and twenty-five members and fifty-five

ates is unusually large for this District, yet
t dispensations granted to confer the degrees

out of the usual time ; and I am happy to be able to assure you that those Masters of Lodges with whom I have conversed upon the subject fully coincide with you in your views in regard to granting dispensations ; and I feel confident that when the brethren fully understand the original intention of the dispensing power, that a still less number will be applied for.

The specimens of work which I have witnessed were of the highest character ; the officers of the various Lodges manifest a laudable desire to perfect themselves in the Ritual, and to perform their duties in conformity with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, and in accordance with the ancient usages of the Order.

Peace and harmony prevail in all the Lodges ; and I take this occasion to state, that I am confident, that for the prosperity of the Lodges in this District, and the truly masonic feeling which exists between the brethren, we are largely indebted to the genial influence and kindness of my predecessor in office.

The kind reception I have everywhere met with while making my official visits, the opportunity afforded me of witnessing the exemplification of the work in the several Lodges and extending my acquaintance among the brethren, have made my duties exceedingly pleasant and my labors comparatively light.

In conclusion, allow me to express to you my most sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred on me by selecting me as your representative in this District, and to assure you that

I remain most truly and fraternally yours,

GEORGE H. PEIRSON,

D. D. G. M. Second Masonic District.

SALEM, Dec. 8, 1866.

THIRD DISTRICT.

W. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

THREE, — In compliance with established custom I submit my first annual report of the Lodges and interesting District. Since my appointment (for which honorable position I am under much consideration), I have visited all the Lodges several of them twice, and am happy in being able to report general, remarkable prosperity, excellence of the Grand Lodge, as well as a thorough appreciation of our Order. With these few satisfactory remarks I might, perhaps with propriety, conclude. However, that this opportunity should pass without a brief statement of my official acts.

First, to make mention of each Lodge in the order in which they were visited.

ANDOVER. — This Lodge is well officered, and is making every progress. Its records are neatly and its order maintained such as to merit official

ANDOVER, HAVERHILL. — This is a large and flourishing Lodge. I found every thing in a satisfactory condition; its records fully constitute masonic history, kept in fine order. The work (that of the third degree) was such as to merit the highest approval.

ANDOVER, METHUEN. — This Lodge, chartered in 1810, considering the size of the village in which it is situated, is making commendable progress. Its newly elected officers are all worthy. The evening previous to that of my visit; and yet the work was most impressively conferred, — the work of the Grand Lodge.

On the 12th of Oct. 12, in company with several brethren from Andover, and the city of Lowell, I made an official

visit to **GRECIAN LODGE, LAWRENCE.** This visit was rendered particularly pleasant, it being selected as the occasion for presenting to the retiring Master (Dr. J. H. Kidder) a beautiful Past Master's jewel. Dr. Kidder had, for the two previous years, been the efficient Master of the Lodge, which, under his administration, enjoyed a large degree of prosperity. The work was on the third degree, and was done in a thorough and able manner.

ST. PAUL'S, GEOTON.—This Lodge, the oldest in the District, is still vigorous, and, I doubt not, is exerting in that community an influence at once salutary and beneficial.

As my visit to St. Paul's was made in the afternoon, I was enabled, in the evening of the same day, to visit **CALEB BUTLER LODGE, SOUTH GEOTON.** The work which I here witnessed was in strict conformity to that of the Grand Lodge. As you are aware, this is the home of the Senior Grand Lecturer, and it is, without doubt, owing (in part, at least,) to his faithful labors that the officers of this Lodge are so well qualified. I am indebted to W. Br. Bancroft for kind assistance rendered upon this occasion.

Monday, Nov. 5, I visited **AURORA LODGE, FITCHBURG.** The F. C. degree was worked in an admirable manner, and must have made an abiding impression upon the candidate. The records of this Lodge are well kept; and every thing seems in keeping with masonic usage.

Tuesday evening, Nov. 6, visited **ANCIENT YORK LODGE, LOWELL.** Here, too, I witnessed an exemplification of the second degree, conferred by W. Br. Ashneith, the retiring Master. I need only add that the work was well done; and at its conclusion the newly elected officers were installed by my immediate predecessor, W. Br. Salmon. Thus the occasion of my visit was rendered one of more than usual interest.

TUSCAN LODGE, LAWRENCE.—This Lodge continues to deserve the reputation which it has always enjoyed. Though its charter is of comparatively recent date, it now numbers more than one hundred members. I will only add that its records are a model for neatness and propriety.

Thursday evening, Nov. 13, was the time of my visit to **PEN-**

LOWELL. It was my privilege, the week preceding, publicly to install the officers of this venerable and pleasing ceremony was performed in presence of many of brethren and invited guests. At the concluding exercises, a bountiful collation was provided, where the pleasure of the social element was abundantly enjoyed. At my visit, the third degree was conferred in an able and pleasant manner. The work in Pentucket Lodge is as good as I ever expect to see it.

PENTUCKET LODGE, HAVERHILL. — My visit to this Lodge was on Friday evening, Nov. 19. This is one of the youngest Lodges in the District, it having been constituted during the year 1885; its growth has indeed been marvellous, and its work most unexampled. The work was that of the third degree, and was both impressive and correct.

Nov. 20, was the time of my visit to WILDER LODGE,

WILDER LODGE. The work which I here witnessed was correct, and the officers prevailed such as to meet my approval. The Lodge is well officered, and is in a healthy state.

WILDER LODGE, GARDNER. — This, though one of the youngest, is nevertheless one of the finest Lodges in the District; its work is finished and furnished in excellent taste; every thing is in accordance with the requirements of the Order. The work, however, is excellent; in fact, I hardly know how it could have been better, except by the introduction of music. When I next visit, I shall look upon the Lodge as a model one in the District.

WILDER LODGE, CONCORD. — This Lodge is not increasing as fast, perhaps, as is desirable. I trust that the officers, which it has now entered will witness, in this respect, a great improvement. The Lodge is well officered, and the work in it is that of the Grand Lodge. I am indebted to W. W. for kind remembrance.

DISPENSATIONS. — I have issued but few dispensations, and for the strongest possible reasons. I have signed a dispensation for one new Lodge, viz., that at Lowell.

Regarding the circular which brought to our notice the

condition of many of the aged brethren in Portland, in accordance with your suggestion, I visited such Lodges as was convenient for me to, and so brought the matter personally to their notice. Where it was not convenient to visit, I sent printed copies of the circular, briefly commending the subject to their favorable consideration.

Most of the Lodges have responded with commendable promptness, — liberal amounts having been contributed and forwarded as desired.

In conclusion, I desire to add that my visits have been remarkably pleasant ones. As your official representative, I have been warmly welcomed. And in time to come, as memory turns back to the interesting seasons which I have enjoyed with my brethren of the various Lodges, I cannot fail to class them as among the pleasantest of my many pleasant memories. Acknowledging through you my indebtedness to R.W. Br. Stowe, of Lawrence, Brothers S. S. Crocker, of Leominster, and D. P. Crocker and Rev. Br. Jones, of Fitchburg, for substantial aid kindly rendered, and tendering you my sincere thanks for the appointment, coupled with congratulations upon the gratifying condition of the fraternity throughout the good old Commonwealth, I am, with kind regards,

Truly and fraternally yours,

L. A. BISHOP,
D. D. G. M. Third District.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

M.W. Br. CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

A NOTICE to attend the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, warns me that this masonic year is nearly to a close, and also that I have an account to render you of the way and

I have discharged the duties of D.D.G.M. of the
Masonic District for the past year. . . .

visited all the Lodges named in the Fourth District,
by the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, and can
as I did last year, that the work is well and uniformly
District. I have in all cases been kindly and cour-
teous as your Deputy, and take pleasure in returning
my sincere thanks for the honor thus conferred upon
me.

I give you the date of my official visit to each Lodge,
and the number of members and amount of work done
as follows:—

	Initiates.	Members.
Sept. 18, 1866	1	76
" " 25, "	11	81
" " 24, "	13	57
" " 21, "	19	78
" Oct. 4, "	21	142
" " 22, "	12	87
Nov. 20, "	9	82
" " 26, "	6	56
" " 17, "	8	31
	<hr/> 100	<hr/> 685

see that the whole number of affiliated Masons in
this District is six hundred and eighty-five, and the
initiates just one hundred.

that my duties have been performed in such a manner
with your approval, and the acceptance of the Lodges
in this District,

Yours, fraternally and truly yours,

H. C. SKINNER,
D. D. G. M. Fourth Masonic District.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

I HAVE the honor to state that I have visited officially all the Lodges in the Fifth Masonic District during the current year, and am now submitting my report.

I may be pardoned for saying that I have endeavored to faithfully perform the duties entrusted to me, by your appointment, and have found them, though somewhat arduous, yet very pleasant.

I do not deem it necessary to give a special report of each Lodge under my supervision, but I shall speak chiefly in general terms.

From all sources of information, I think I am warranted in stating that at no period in the history of these Lodges have they been more prosperous or successful in the attainment of the object proposed by Masonry.

With no small pleasure have I noticed the cordial interest manifested, and the constant watchfulness shown, in relation to the admission of applicants for initiation. Nearly one-third of such applicants, in this District, have been rejected, which fact alone affords evidence of careful examination into their fitness as candidates.

The number initiated during the current year is not so large as in the year previous, but as large as the true interests of the Lodges demand. The ritual was given very uniformly, and either corresponded or closely approximated to that given in the Grand Lodge of the State. I was pleasantly surprised at the degree of perfection exhibited in the work of most of the Lodges, and it certainly reflects great credit upon the officers and members who have contributed to this desirable result.

I find that with scarcely an exception, the records are remarkably well kept. In fact, such attention have they received that it is difficult to say which excelled.

I take great pleasure in returning my sincere thanks
 ers of the Fifth Masonic District, for the uniformly
 rteous treatment extended to me, and for the hearty
 with which the discharge of my official duties was
 them.

respectfully and fraternally yours,

JONATHAN R. GAY,
D. D. G. M. Fifth Masonic District.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

CHARLES C. DAME, *Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of
 Massachusetts.*

ND BROTHER,—Having completed the duties which
 me in the important office to which you were pleased
 , I now take pleasure in presenting for your consid-
 llowing, as my annual report : —
 personally visited all the Lodges in the District ; have
 ir work, which, for the most part, has been done in
 manner. Some of the Lodges, I think, cannot be
 correctness of work, while many others will, in due
 the high point which their more favored brethren
 l. Most of the officers devote much time and atten-
 work, and in return receive the hearty co-operation
 hren. There are a few, however, who fall behind
 It is evident that some have neglected to avail
 the services of the Grand Lecturers. The amount
 the year exceeds that of any other. The number of
 been two hundred and thirteen, and the amount due
 Lodge is eight hundred and sixty dollars. The
 ejections has been one hundred and eighteen, which

shows that due care has been exercised by most of the Lodges in their examination of applicants for the degrees. The three Lodges in Worcester initiated thirty-nine during the past year, and have rejected fifty-nine. There are some exceptions, where large numbers have been received, and but few or no rejections. To such we would say, that too much care cannot be used in selecting those who are to be our brethren. I am happy to state that peace and harmony prevail throughout the District. In closing, permit me to return to you my grateful acknowledgments for the high honor which you conferred upon one so unworthy of your favor.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

A. A. BURDITT,
D. D. G. M. of the Sixth Masonic District.

CLINTON, Nov. 30, 1866.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In accordance with the requirements of the Grand Constitutions, I herewith submit my report, as District Deputy Grand Master of the Seventh Masonic District.

The following table will not only enable you to compare with preceding years the amount of work performed, and the condition of the Lodges in this District, but may be of value as a future reference : —

Location.	Number Initiates.	Number Members.	Date of visit.	Number rejected.
Tisbury .	7	95	Sept. 17	5
Fall River	19	195	" 21	10
Marion . .	7	39	" 25	4
Middleboro'	12	53	Oct. 5	6
Attleboro' .	12	92	" 9	4
Taunton .	18	257	" 12	19
Bridgewater	8	107	" 15	6
Somerset .	17	84	" 19	5
New Bedford	28	283	" 29	45
"	8	140	Nov. 2	9
Foxboro' .	3	104	" 5	10
Mansfield .	17	46	" 6	8

necessary to call your attention to any particular district, and will only state that, generally, the by-laws of the several Lodges are such as to meet the approbation of the Grand Master. Where harmony and concord exist, the lodge extends, harmony and concord exist.

have afforded me pleasure as well as profit, and I have been received with that courtesy from the members of the fraternity, and which is the privilege of the Grand Lodge.

Lodges working under dispensation now, viz., Taunton, King Philip of Fall River, and Orient, former of which I visited, and witnessed an interesting work. I doubt not that when the time arrives for the next visit to this Lodge, the brethren will be found ready to receive it. I requested P.M. R. C. Brown of the Lodge of Fall River, and he reports it in good condition. The latter, Orient Lodge of which was mentioned in my commission, and for other reasons seemed it necessary to visit. The last intelligence from it was, that the brethren had not come, but hoped to soon.

Lodge of Taunton, has recently dedicated a new hall, a very fine one it is. Matters of this kind

are subjects for congratulation, as they not only render it more convenient to perform the work, but tend to create a new interest in the Order.

By the preceding table, you will observe an apparent unnecessary amount of blackballing, — in several instances the number rejected exceeding the number accepted. I have taken occasion to speak to the brethren touching that matter, and have observed that, although it is enjoined upon us to exercise great care in selecting from the applicants those who are worthy and well qualified, yet an indiscriminate use of the blackball is to be deplored.

I have granted dispensations to confer the degrees out of the usual course in ten instances, all of which I am satisfied are for good and sufficient reasons.

For the honor you have conferred upon me, in appointing me your Deputy for the Seventh Masonic District, I sincerely thank you.

I am, with great respect, yours fraternally,

J. B. BAYLIES.

NEW BEDFORD, December, 1866.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To the M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — Having discharged, according to the best of my ability, the duties of the office of D. D. G. M., to which you were pleased to appoint me, I now have the honor and the pleasure to submit to you the following report : —

During the past year I have visited, officially, every Lodge, with one exception, within the jurisdiction of the Eighth Masonic District, and I am happy to say that I never found them in a more healthy, harmonious, and prosperous condition.

sion to which I allude is King Hiram Lodge, Pro-
 circumstances beyond my control rendered it impos-
 to visit this Lodge within the required time; and
 empowered Past Master Br. J. P. Johnson to perform
 kindly served me, and from whom I received a
 report.

within this jurisdiction eight original Lodges, num-
 hundred and eighty-six members in all, and the num-
 rates initiated is ninety-five, viz., Social Harmony,
 k; Fraternal, Hyannis, twenty-two; Marine, Fal-
 De Witt Clinton, Sandwich, four; Union, Nantucket,
 Horeb, West Harwich, fifteen; Pilgrim, Harwich,
 King Hiram, Provincetown, twenty-two.

es, as a whole, have done less work than last year,
 previous, and this evidently not because of the want
 many of whom were rejected, but because of less
 multiply members, and greater care and caution as
 ey received to the privileges of Masonry. The
 beginning to see and to understand that the rush into
 ich has been every where going on the last four or
 a rush, not only as regards the multitude of candi-
 regards the rapidity with which they have often been
 e several degrees, — is dangerous to the interest and
 e Masonic Institution; and that a sound, healthy,
 prosperity depends not upon numbers, but upon char-
 aral worth.

t of this conviction on the part of the brethren, of
 ce of "making haste slowly," I have had but very
 ns for dispensations, — far less than in former years,
 called for, it has been only in very extreme cases,
 felt fully justified in granting them.

very Lodge within the District has raised the initia-
 \$25 to \$30 or \$35, mainly with a view of diminish-
 ber of applicants, by making it more expensive to
 n through the door of Masonry.

been more than ordinary interest manifested on the
 officers and others of the several Lodges to perfect

themselves in the ritual and the lectures, as prescribed by the M.W. Grand Lodge,—a fact plainly evident from the very great improvement which has been made. I have found no poor work in any Lodge; none that was not good; in some few it was most excellent; and for correctness and impressiveness, will not suffer by comparison with that of any other Lodge in the State.

In addition to the eight Lodges named, there are two new Lodges: James Otis, Barnstable, and Adams, Wellfleet. The former, as you are aware, has received a charter, and been recently consecrated, and I am happy to say is united and prosperous; and the brethren manifest a laudable zeal in qualifying themselves to be *Master Masons*. The latter is still working under a dispensation, and from them I hear a good report. I am told that, after many trials and discouragements, they have succeeded in a good degree in mastering the work of the ritual; that they have conferred the degrees upon several worthy candidates; and that they intend to apply for a charter at the next regular communication of the Grand Lodge.

I desire to say, in conclusion, that in all the Lodges I have been cordially and fraternally received in my official visits; in two of which, Mount Horeb and Pilgrim, special arrangements were made, of a social and festive character, not only to welcome me with a warm, fraternal greeting, but to make the occasion one of pleasure that will be long remembered.

Fraternally and truly yours,

RUFUS S. POPE,

D. D. G. M. Eighth Masonic District.

HYANNIS, November 30, 1866.

NINTH DISTRICT.

CHARLES C. DAME, *Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

BROTHER,—Another masonic year draws to a summons comes, “give an account of thy stewardship thereto, I submit, in addition to the usual report, a brief statement of my labors with the Lodges for the last year, and their general condition. I visited all the Lodges in the District once, and most of while some of them have been visited several times, and given in perfecting their work, etc. In each I witnessed work on one or more of the degrees, and was fully much gratified with the manner in which it has met the desire which all have manifested for improvement of work and ritual of the Order, and the zeal with which they have striven to perfect themselves therein. A desire has been shown among officers and members to live by the genuine principles of our institution,” and exemplify as well as word, the vital principles contained in the grand and impressive instructions and ceremonies of our Order. We have found the charters in each of the Lodges carefully kept, and the records in most of them accurately and complete. I have seldom had occasion to call attention to faults or defects, though the increasing work of the Lodges has required a large amount of labor upon the Secretaries, while some Lodges are patterns for imitation in all respects,—especially those of Hampden and Roswell Lee Lodges.

Lodges I have been received with all the respect due them, and with every personal attention that could be desired. Never have I witnessed more of real fraternal kindness, of good fellowship and harmony among the members, or a higher and more abiding appreciation of the worth of our Order and honored institution, or a deeper and more active

interest in all that pertains to Masonry, than seems now to exist in this District.

The amount of work done in the District exceeds that of any former year, and I am convinced that this has not been owing to any unusual or improper influence to increase numbers. In my official visits the previous year, I took especial pains to enjoin upon all the duty of exercising great caution as to the character of applicants before presenting their petitions, of thoroughness and impartiality on the part of investigating committees, with full and faithful reports, and the exercise of the right of ballot with a wise, discreet, and unbiassed discrimination. An examination of the records of the Lodges convinces me that this has been done; and though the proportion of rejections in two or three Lodges has been greater than I should desire, I think there has been great care taken to exclude the unworthy; and of those received I have no doubt there are many who will not only be living stones in the temple of Masonry, but become bright and shining ornaments thereof.

The following table will show the present condition of the Lodges, with the amount of work, membership, and dues to the Grand Lodge, as compared with the previous year:—

Name and Location of Lodge.	Date of Official visit.	Number of Initiates.		Number of Members.		Dues to Grand Lodge.	
		1865	1866	1865	1866	1865	1866
Cincinnatus, Gt. Barrington	Oct. 19	12	23	111	123	\$42	\$108
Evening Star, Lee	Oct. 17	14	4	93	94	48	22
Lafayette, North Adams . .	Sept. 24	30	19	88	95	96	77
Thomas, Palmer	Nov. 19	5	15	82	89	21	61
Wisdom, West Stockbridge	Oct. 20	11	3	38	36	39	21
Mystic, Pittsfield	Oct. 30	21	26	99	124	69	98
Hampden, Springfield . . .	Nov. 20	48	38	380	594	150	146
Mount Moriah, Westfield .	Nov. 14	15	14	173	185	51	56
Berkshire, South Adams .	Nov. 12	10	11	55	64	36	47
Day Spring, Monson . . .	Nov. 21	8	11	44	54	30	47
Roswell Lee, Springfield .	Nov. 17	21	30	74	94	69	108
		195	199	1237	1552	\$651	\$791

It can be seen that the number of initiates the past year was an increase of 4 over the previous year; the number was 1,552, an increase of 215 from the previous year; dues to the Grand Lodge \$791, or \$150 more than the previous year.

This amount (\$791) I have collected, paid over to the Treasurer, and have his receipt for the same.

I have granted a few dispensations for conferring degrees, saving the usual time between them, where the reasons were to be of sufficient urgency to demand it; but I am of the opinion that the applications for such authority are becoming more numerous than formerly, and I believe are seldom granted where the urgency of the case justifies it. Nevertheless, it would be a wise provision for the Grand Lodge to make for dispensations, and where the application is made by a candidate, that the Lodge should require him to pay the dues, and the expenses attending any extra meetings.

This year I have installed the officers of nine of the districts, the ceremonies of three of which have been attended by large audiences were present and manifested interest in them; and individuals afterwards spoke of them as beautiful, solemn, and impressive; and in some cases I have done much to remove previously formed prejudices against the institution. While I would not recommend public installations as a general thing, I think there are times when, if properly arranged and managed, they do good.

This year two new halls, at Monson and North Adams, were finished, and dedicated by the Grand Officers. That at Monson is one of the finest, in its proportions, in the District; and North Adams, though not as large, is seldom equalled in the beauty of its arrangement of anterooms, and in the neatness of finish and furnishing. The hall occupied by the Springfield Lodge has been greatly improved and beautified, and has a very fine appearance, and every way convenient and commodious. The Innatus Lodge, at Great Barrington, also have a new hall under course of completion, which they hope to occupy in the near future.

The brethren at Huntington, who a few months since, discouraged by a fire that destroyed all their property, and the removal of some of their number, returned the dispensation under which they had been working, are now about to ask for another, having obtained the assent of the nearest Lodge and the approval of the District Deputy Grand Master. From the character of the men who are taking hold of it, their interest in the Order, and now favoring circumstances which seem to surround them, I hope they may lay the foundation for a permanent and flourishing Lodge among their mountain fastnesses.

The duties of District Deputy Grand Master, in a district so large in extent of territory and number of Lodges as the present Ninth, are quite laborious, and though the labor is one of love, and most of the duties are very pleasant, affording one fine opportunity for the most pleasant of social intercourse, and the foundation and cultivation of valuable acquaintances, yet it is a tax upon one's time so great, that, while I thank you most heartily for the honor of my appointment, — for certainly I esteem it a high honor to serve in this position under you, — I feel that I must most respectfully ask you to relieve me from the further care and responsibility of so large and rapidly increasing a District.

With assurances of my kind regard, and of my best wishes for the future, very truly and fraternally yours,

HENRY CHICKERING,
D. D. G. M. Ninth Masonic District.

PITTSFIELD, December 1, 1866.

TENTH DISTRICT.

*To the M. W. CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of
Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the pleasure to submit my second annual report as D. D. G. M. of the Tenth Masonic District.

the Lodges of this District are enjoying a reasonable prosperity. The following table shows the work of this District, during the year just closed to be less than that of the previous one:—

Lodge.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.	
		1866.	1865.	1866.
. . .	Chicopee	127	15	12
. . .	Holyoke	123	13	12
. . .	Northampton . . .	193	30	37
. . .	Amherst	101	24	14
. . .	Enfield	75	15	9
. . .	Athol	63	4	17
. . .	Orange	73	8	7
. . .	Northfield	63	9	10
. . .	Greenfield	142	29	15
. . .	Shelburne Falls . .	78	9	7
		1,038	156	140

During the work of 1865 and 1866, I do not regard it a favorable symptom that the number of initiates has diminished; for the returns of the Lodges show that a large number have applied for the degrees, and a correspondingly large number have been rejected. And may we not expect that the internal and external prosperity which has attended Freemasonry the last few years will be followed by a corresponding increase in the number of initiates? It will be well for those who have the interests of the Order at heart to think of these things, and to guard well against any such results.

I have personally visited all the Lodges of this District, and in conformity with the requirements of the Constitutions, I have examined the by-laws, records, charters, and witnessed an exemplary work of the several degrees, and in some cases a full rehearsal of the lectures. In all the Lodges (with a single exception) the work has been well done,—as required in accordance with the ritual prescribed by the Grand Lodge. It would be expected. In case of the exception above mentioned, I am happy to state that steps have been taken to improve the services of a Grand Lecturer, which will doubtless

place that Lodge on an equality with the other Lodges in the District. Among the Lodges generally, I notice that from year to year there seems to be increased attention given to perfecting themselves in the work and lectures, as laid down by the Grand Lodge.

The secretaries of the several Lodges have, as a general thing, performed their duties with fidelity, as is attested by their neat and accurately kept records.

I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the brethren of the district, for the very hospitable manner in which, as your representative, I have been received on the occasion of my visitations.

And, sir, thanking you for the honor of my appointment as District Deputy, and the many acts of kindness at your hands, I remain, yours fraternally,

DAVID W. CRAFTS.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

To the M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is with pleasure that I submit my report relating to the District under my official charge. In alluding to the present condition of the various Lodges composing the Eleventh Masonic District, it is my design to briefly note the impression I have formed of each, through the medium of my official visitations; and at the outset, I desire to impress upon your mind the fact, that thus far I have witnessed nothing whatever to condemn, but on the contrary the character and conduct of every Lodge within my jurisdiction is not only worthy of my highest commendation, but by their loyalty to the Grand Lodge, the excellent rendering of their work, its close alliance to the standard presented by the Grand Lecturers, the general high

social position of their members, as well as the hard-earned fellowship prevailing, render them, as a body, examples for general emulation. The annexed table will give an idea of the amount of work accomplished by each

Loc.	Location.	Members.	Initiated.
	Charlestown	213	10
	"	143	38
	Somerville	152	22
	East Cambridge	87	6
	Woburn	76	9
	Malden	123	34
	West Cambridge	183	22
em	Chelsea	190	24
	Medford	116	11
	Melrose	155	15
	Newtonville	112	15
an	Winchester	86	11
		1,536	217

and largest Lodge in this District is KING SOLOMON'S LODGE, CHARTERED A.L. 5783. This Lodge, with its organization intact, and holding its communications uninterruptedly throughout the fiery ordeal of "Antislavery," has descended to us without a single stain to its escutcheon, and is still as fruitful and vigorous as any Lodge situated within our jurisdiction.

At the Lodge, HENRY PRICK, convenes in the same hall, and confers the degrees upon the extraordinary number of candidates since their last annual return. From the high reputation of this Lodge for skill and fidelity, I am confident due vigilance has been exercised, and that none unworthy have been admitted to the rights and benefits of our Institution.

WILSON LODGE, of SOMERVILLE, always one of the best, maintains its high reputation for work and the many excellencies adorn the masonic character, and under its present management fail to add fresh laurels to those already honorably

At **PUTNAM LODGE, EAST CAMBRIDGE**, it was my rare privilege to listen to a fine exemplification of the work by a son of one of its Past Masters, who promises to increase materially the excellent reputation of this Lodge, so largely indebted to his honored father.

MOUNT HOREB LODGE, of WOBURN, occupies an honorable position among her sister Lodges, and under the leadership of a brother so well versed in masonic work, so thoroughly devoted to the interests of the fraternity, and withal so modest and unassuming, it cannot recede from the true masonic standard.

MOUNT VERNON LODGE, of MALDEN, is found to be in an excellent and prosperous condition. Well officered, possessing plenty of first class material, both in the Lodge as members, and among the general community as candidates, nothing further seems necessary to insure continued and permanent success. In the number of initiates, this Lodge stands second upon the list, having conferred the degrees upon thirty-four candidates.

HIRAM LODGE, of WEST CAMBRIDGE, proverbial for the talents and high masonic culture of its members, and their generous hospitality, convinced me, during my official visitation, that in both respects their reputation had not been unworthily bestowed.

That old and excellent Lodge, **STAR OF BETHLEHEM, CHELSEA**, having recently enlarged and remodelled their hall, are at present in the possession of apartments superior to any in the District; and the character of its work, as witnessed by me, corresponds therewith, approaching the highest degree of excellence.

At **MOUNT HERMON LODGE, MEDFORD**, I witnessed, to my gratification, the conferring of the second degree upon a candidate, who, previous to the ceremony, was conducted into the Lodge and lectured by the W.M. upon the preceding degree, *all* the questions being answered promptly, and with a remarkable degree of accuracy; thus proving that in this Lodge the interrogatory, "Has he made suitable proficiency?" etc., is not an idle question, nor is the answer thereto a falsity. Could this course of procedure be generally adopted, the craft would be highly benefited, inasmuch as *every* Mason would then be able to make himself known to a brother, or work his way into a Lodge, and never suffer under the imputation of being an impostor.

the past year the members of WYOMING LODGE, of
 have been deprived of their masonic home, fire having
 their former elegant apartments, since which time they
 participants of the generous hospitality of Mount Ver-
 of Malden. A new building is now in process of
 their accommodation, designed to eclipse any hall in
 and possibly the State, in point of adaptability for
 poses. Under attending circumstances, little could
 of this Lodge, but I am happy to state that during
 the brethren have generally performed their ma-
 with alacrity. The W.M. and his under officers
 ed themselves in a praiseworthy manner, and all are
 te themselves anew to the cause, upon the completion
 temple.

remind you, sir, that the interests of DALHOUSIE
 EWTONVILLE, are tenderly cared for by an honored
 Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massa-
 perhaps all that need be said; still their fine work,
 and overflowing hospitality are deserving of the
 e, and I cheerfully render it.

rest Lodge under my official charge is WILLIAM PARK-
 CHESTER, a first class Lodge in every respect. Pro-
 per work, careful in the selection of candidates, and
 ical qualities of the highest order, the members of
 may congratulate themselves upon occupying a prom-
 in the Eleventh District.

M.W. Grand Master, in closing this communication,
 say, that if I have been lavish in my praise of the
 n my jurisdiction, it is because I could discover
 ever of sufficient consequence to censure, which
 mind a belief that the *Eleventh* must be the *Banner*
 e Commonwealth. With many thanks for the honor
 you have conferred upon me by your appointment,
 iments of the highest personal esteem,

I am, fraternally yours,

S. O. DEARBORN,

D. D. G. M. Eleventh Masonic District.

ember 4, 1866.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor herewith to submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Twelfth Masonic District for the past masonic year.

Owing to the pressure of private business, and to various engagements incident thereto, I have been unable to attend but very few of the meetings of the Lodges in my District, except on the occasions of my official visitations. But I am happy to announce to you, as the Official Head of our Order in this Commonwealth, that the several Lodges in the District are in excellent condition, and, as a general thing, working harmoniously. At no time since my connection with the fraternity has Masonry, in my judgment, been more popular in the community than at the present time; and I am sure that at no time since my official connection with the Twelfth District have I seen the masonic work so well performed by all the Lodges in that District, without an exception, as upon the occasions of my official visitations this year. Strict attention to the details of the work, and to various matters which tend not only to favorably impress the candidate, but also to increase the interest and attention of the brethren present is, at all times, of the utmost importance when conferring the degrees; and I am most happy to say that this attention has been a marked characteristic in the working of all the Lodges under my jurisdiction this year, some to a greater extent than others, but all sufficiently so to warrant my warmest commendation.

All official visitations have been attended by myself personally, with a single exception, — that of St. Paul's Lodge, at South Boston. The meeting assigned for the visitation of that Lodge happening upon the evening of the annual State election, I could not conveniently attend, and, therefore, deputed W. Br. Theodore

Past Master of St. John's Lodge, to officiate in my report made to me by him, as well as the official abundant evidence of the healthy condition of that this service of Br. Emmons, and for a similar service as well as for his two years of valuable assistance Grand Marshal, I feel that this public acknowledg-

ing table, compiled from the Annual Returns, glance the condition and workings of the several Twelfth District on the first day of September,

Location.	No. of Members.	No. of Initiates.	No. of Rejections.
Roxbury . . .	24	No work.	
Boston . . .	45	5	0
Roxbury . . .	195	16	7
Boston . . .	183	4	3
Boston . . .	220	33	8
Boston . . .	282	22	6
South Boston .	218	27	7
Boston . . .	43	5	1
Cambridge . .	74	20	9
Dorchester . .	162	16	2
Cambridgeport .	216	15	8
Boston . . .	83	10	2
South Boston .	166	25	19
South Boston * .			
	1,911	198	72

going abstract it will appear that the work in my the last year has been considerably less than during year. But it must be remembered that the previous of extraordinary prosperity in this particular District the returns of that year were largely in advance of year in the same District, as well as in advance District in the State in that particular year.

ership in most of the Lodges has increased during an aggregate gain of a little over six per cent; whole, the several bodies may be regarded as being ous condition. I am sorry to say, however, that in

* Instituted since Sept. 1. No work — no returns.

one or two Lodges there have been elements of discord introduced, similar in character to those referred to in my last annual report, which have tended somewhat to check the growth, prosperity, and usefulness of those particular Lodges. In the discharge of my official duty, I have not hesitated to rebuke those who have thus violated their masonic obligations; and, without mentioning here the name of any particular Lodge as being thus guilty, I desire to say, that, in my judgment, whenever the members of any Lodge are so divided among themselves upon *outside questions* relating to politics, religion, temperance, &c., to such an extent as to entirely stop the workings of the Lodge for more than half of the entire masonic year (as has been the case with one Lodge in my District), that Lodge is no longer a masonic institution within the spirit and meaning of our Order, and should be required forthwith to surrender its charter, unless harmony be at once restored. I trust the admonition already given, in the case above alluded to, will not go unheeded; and sincerely hope that it may result beneficially to all concerned.

In closing this the last official communication which I shall have the honor to submit as District Deputy Grand Master, I desire to express thus publicly my most sincere and hearty thanks to the officers and members of the several Lodges in the Twelfth District for the uniform kindness and courtesy extended to me personally, as well as the representative of the Grand Lodge during my four years of official service. I desire also to recognize, and to most thankfully acknowledge, the many valuable services rendered me by those brethren who have so frequently and so readily aided me in the discharge of my duties by accompanying me upon my official visitations.

Thanking you, M.W. Grand Master, for the high honor conferred upon me by the office which I now surrender, permit me to congratulate you, and the fraternity generally, upon the present high state of prosperity of Freemasonry in Massachusetts. I have the honor to subscribe myself,

Most respectfully and fraternally yours,

N. A. THOMPSON,
D. D. G. M. Twelfth District.

LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF

AND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,

ACCORDING TO DISTRICTS.

DISTRICT No. I. (BOSTON.)

W. JAMES A. FOX, OF BOSTON.

on (1733).
Boston (1756).
Boston (1770).
ton (1796).
r, Boston (1801).
East Boston (1846).
Boston (1853).

GERMANIA, Boston (1855).
WINSLOW LEWIS, Boston (1856).
REVERE, Boston (1856).
JOSEPH WARREN, Boston (1857).
HAMMATT, East Boston (1860).
ABERDOUR, Boston (1861).
ELEUSIS, Boston (1865).

DISTRICT No. II. (CHARLESTOWN.)

S. O. DEARBORN, OF MELROSE.

Charlestown (1783).
Lynn (1805).
HEM, Chelsea (1843).
Medford (1854).
ose (1857).

MOUNT VERNON, Malden (1858).
HENRY PRICE, Charlestown (1859).
GOLDEN FLEECE, Lynn (1865).
WILLIAM SUTTON, Saugus (U.D.).
ROBERT LAW, Chelsea (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. III. (ROXBURY.)

R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, OF AUBURNDALE.

MIDDLESEX, Framingham (1795).	GATE OF THE TEMPLE, South Boston (1856).
WASHINGTON, Roxbury (1797).	DALHOUSIE, Newtonville (1861).
UNION, Dorchester (1796).	LAFAYETTE, Roxbury (1866).
MERIDIAN, Natick (1797).	ADELPHI, South Boston (1866).
BETHESDA, Brighton (1819).	ELIOT, West Roxbury (U.D.).
ST. PAUL's, South Boston (1847).	

DISTRICT No. IV. (CAMBRIDGE.)

R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT, OF CAMBRIDGEPORT.

CORINTHIAN, Concord (1797).	PEQUOSSETTE, Watertown (1857).
HIRSH, West Cambridge (1797).	JOHN ABBOT, Somerville (1858).
AMICABLE, Cambridgeport (1806).	Mt. OLIVET, Old Cambridge (1864).
MONITOR, Waltham (1820).	BELMONT, Belmont (1865).
PUTNAM, East Cambridge (1854).	

DISTRICT No. V. (SALEM.)

R.W. GEORGE A. PEIRSON, OF SALEM.

PHILANTHROPIC, Marblehead (1760).	ASHLER, Rockport (1852).
TYRIAN, Gloucester (1770).	AMITY, Danvers (1863).
ESSEX, Salem (1779).	STARR KING, Salem (1865).
JORDAN, South Danvers (1808).	JOHN T. HEARD, Ipswich (1865).
LIBERTY, Beverly (1824).	ACACIA, Gloucester (1866).

DISTRICT No. VI. (NEWBURYPORT.)

R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, OF LAWRENCE.

ST. JOHN's, Newburyport (1766).	GRECIAN, Lawrence (1825).
MERRIMAC, Haverhill (1802).	JOHN HANCOCK, Methuen (1860).
ST. MARK's, Newburyport (1803).	TUSCAN, Lawrence (1863).
WARREN, Amesbury (1822).	SAGGAHEW, Haverhill (1865).
ST. MATTHEW's, Andover (1822).	

DISTRICT No. VII. (LOWELL.)

CHARLES KIMBALL, OF LOWELL.

ton (1797).	CALEB BUTLER, Groton Junc. (1859).
urg (1801).	WM. PARKMAN, Winchester (1865).
well (1807).	CHAS. W. MOORE, Fitchburg (1866).
Lowell (1853).	KILWINNING, Lowell (U.D.).
Woburn (1855).	

DISTRICT No. VIII. (GREENFIELD.)

THAMA F. CONKEY, OF AMHERST.

Greenfield (1795).	ORANGE, Orange (1860).
hfield (1796).	HOPE, Gardner (1865).
rst (1801).	STAR, Athol (1865).
lburne Falls (1806).	ARTISAN, Winchenden (1866).
l (1825).	

DISTRICT No. IX. (PITTSFIELD.)

HENRY CHICKERING, OF PITTSFIELD.

Lee (1795).	MYSTIC, Pittsfield (1810).
G. Barrington (1795).	MOUNT MORIAH, Westfield (1856).
orth Adams (1796).	BERKSHIRE, South Adams (1858).
Stockbridge (1808).	HUNTINGTON, Huntington (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. X. (SPRINGFIELD.)

DAVID W. CRAFTS, OF NORTHAMPTON.

er (1796).	QUABOAG, Warten (1859).
Northampton (1797).	DAY SPRING, Monson (1863).
ngfield (1817).	HAYDEN, Brookfield (1868).
Copee (1848).	ROSWELL LEE, Springfield (1864).
olyoke (1850).	EDEN, Ware (1865).

DISTRICT No. XI. (WORCESTER.)

A. A. BURDITT, OF CLINTON.

, Worcester (1793).	QUINEBAUG, Southbridge (1860).
Barre (1800).	WILDER, Leominster (1860).
on (1858).	DORIC, Feltonville (1864).
Worcester (1859).	NORTH STAR, Ashland (1865).
REN, Marlboro' (1860).	ATHELSTANE, Worcester (1866).

DISTRICT No. XII. (MILFORD.)

R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER, OF MILFORD.

MONTGOMERY, Milford (1797).	WEBSTER, Webster (1859).
OLIVE BRANCH, Sutton (1797).	OXFORD, Oxford (1860).
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, Uxbridge (1818).	JOHN WARREN, Hopkinton (1861).
FRANKLIN, Grafton (1862).	MOUNT HOLLIS, Holliston (1865).
BLACKSTONE RIVER, Blackstone (1856).	SILIAM, Westboro' (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. XIII. (TAUNTON.)

R.W. JONATHAN R. GAY, OF STOUGHTON.

BRISTOL, Attleboro' (1797).	BLUE HILL, Canton (1864).
KING DAVID, Taunton (1798).	ST. JAMES, Mansfield (1865).
RISEING STAR, Stoughton (1799).	ALFRED BATLIES, Taunton (1866).
ST. ALBAN'S, Foxboro' (1818).	HYDE PARK, Dorchester (1866).
ORIENT, South Dedham (1862).	IONIC, Taunton (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. XIV. (NEW BEDFORD.)

R.W. GEORGE H. TABER, OF FAIRHAVEN.

MARINE, Falmouth (1798).	PYTHAGORIAN, Marion (1863).
STAR IN THE EAST, New Bedford (1823).	PIONEER, Somerset (1864).
MOUNT HOPE, Fall River (1824).	MAYFLOWER, Middleboro' (1865).
EUREKA, New Bedford (1858).	KING PHILIP, Fall River (1866).
MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Tisbury (1860).	ORIENTAL, Edgartown (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. XV. (BARNSTABLE.)

R.W. REV. R. S. POPE, OF HYANNIS.

UNION, Nantucket (1771).	DE WITT CLINTON, Sandwich (1866).
KING HIRAM, Provincetown (1796).	PILGRIM, South Harwich (1860).
FRATERNAL, Hyannis (1801).	JAMES OTIS, Barnstable (1866).
SOCIAL HARMONY, Wareham (1823).	ADAMS, Wellfleet (1866).
MT. HOREB, West Harwich (1856).	

DISTRICT No. XVI. (PLYMOUTH.)

Z. L. BICKNELL, OF WEYMOUTH.

Hingham (1792).	PLYMOUTH, Plymouth (1825).
Bridgewater (1797).	PAUL REVERE, North Bridgewater
cy (1801).	(1857).
NE, Duxbury (1808).	JOHN CUTLER, Abington (1860).
ION, Randolph (1819).	KONOHASSETT, Cohasset (1866).
PE, Weymouth (1825).	

GEORGE H. KENDALL, DEPUTY FOR CHILI, S.A.

Valparaiso, South Ame-	HIRAM OF COPIAPO, Copiapo, Chili,
	S.A. (1858).

LESLIE E. HILL, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR CHINA.

LANDMARK OF HONG QUE Shanghai (1864).

ROBERT H. HARTLEY, LIMA, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR PERU.

INSON LODGE At Arica.

COLOMBIA.—ISTHMUS LODGE, at Panama.

PERMANENT MEMBERS

OF THE

LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Past Grand Masters.

ROBINSON	5845.
E M. RANDALL	5851.
LEWIS, M.D.	5854.
ARD, Esq.	5857.
C. COOLIDGE, Esq.	5861.
ARKMAN, Esq.	5863.

Past Deputy Grand Masters.

A. DAME, Esq.	5882.
SMITH, Esq.	5887.
P. WELLS	5844.
PAIGE, Esq.	5851.
T. LOW, M.D.	5854.
LES R. TRAIN	5859.
C. SMITH, M.D.	5860.
WARREN	5861.
HALL P. WILDER	5862.
C. DAME, Esq.	5863.

Past Senior Grand Wardens.

AS TOLMAN	5840.
RWOOD, M.D.	5853.
SPOFFORD, M.D.	5854.
AM C. PLUNKETT	5855.

BRADFORD L. WALES, M.D.	5857.
HENRY GODDARD, Esq.	5858.
LORENZO H. GAMWELL, Esq.	5859.
JOEL SPALDING, M.D.	5860.
WILLIAM NORTH, Esq.	5861.
HENRY CHICKERING, Esq.	5862.
WILLIAM W. BAKER, Esq.	5863.
WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Esq.	5864.
WENDELL T. DAVIS, Esq.	5865.

Past Junior Grand Wardens.

THOMAS POWER, Esq.	5843.
JOHN HEWS, Esq.	5844.
WILLIAM EATON, Esq.	5851.
JOHN FLINT, M.D.	5852.
JONAS A. MARSHALL, M.D.	5854.
SAMUEL K. HUTCHINSON, Esq.	5855.
JOHN. H. SHEPPARD, Esq.	5857.
ISAAC HULL WRIGHT, Esq.	5858.
CHARLES ROBBINS, Esq.	5859.
PETER C. JONES, Esq.	5862.
DANIEL REYNOLDS, Esq.	5863.
BENJAMIN DEAN, Esq.	5864.
OLON THORNTON, Esq.	5865.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ADDRESS :

CHARLES W. MOORE, FREEMASONS' HALL.

NO. 10 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

of *Massachusetts* — *Grand Lodge*
AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN
NORTH AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS.

From March 13 to Dec. 27, 1867;

CELEBRATING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY.

CHARLES C. DAME, GRAND MASTER.

Ordered to be Read in all the Lodges.

BOSTON:

PRINTED BY EDWARD S. COOMBS & CO.

1868.

1870, Jan. 10.
Gift of
Edward J. Coombs,
of Boston.

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Abstract of Proceedings

OF THE

LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

MARCH 13, A.L. 5867.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND
MASSACHUSETTS was held at Freemasons' Hall,
Boston, on Wednesday, March 13, A.L.

Present.

C. DAME	Grand Master.
A. THOMPSON	Deputy Grand Master.
P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Warden.
MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Warden.
MCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain.
D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
	Junior Grand Deacon.
TEARNS, } PERKINS, }	Grand Stewards.
HENEY,	
KEYWOOD	Grand Pursuivant.
EROFT, } POPE, }	Grand Lecturers.
RODES	Grand Organist.
AY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1
R.W. S. O. DEARBORN	District No. 2
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT	District No. 4
R.W. GEORGE H. PIERSON	District No. 5
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 6
R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL	District No. 7
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District No. 8
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District No. 11
R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 12
R.W. GEORGE H. TABER	District No. 14
R.W. Rev. R. S. POPE	District No. 15
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	District No. 16

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. SIMON W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
R.W. A. A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master
R.W. E. M. P. WELLS	" " " "
R.W. L. R. PAIGE	" " " "
R.W. G. W. WARREN	" " " "
R.W. M. P. WILDER	" " " "
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	Past Grand Warden.
R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER	" " "
R.W. S. K. HUTCHINSON	" " "
R.W. ISAAC H. WRIGHT	" " "
R.W. PETER C. JONES	" " "
R.W. DANIEL REYNOLDS	" " "
R.W. BENJAMIN DEAN	" " "
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at 2 o'clock,
P.M. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Proceedings of Pilgrim Lodge *vs.* Z. H. Godfrey were presented and referred to R.W. Brothers R. S. Pope, Winslow Lewis, and W. Brother Heywood, who subsequently offered the following report, which was adopted, and the expulsion of said Godfrey was confirmed : —

ELSION OF Z. H. GODFREY.

whom was referred the matter of the expulsion, a member of Pilgrim Lodge, from the of Masonry, have attended to that duty and

examined a certified copy of the proceedings in this case. They find in it some irregularities, but had notice of the charges, and full opportunity for his defence, and failed to appear at the meeting, and as it appeared that the charges were clearly and conclusively of such a character as to fully warrant the expulsion of Godfrey from all the rights and privileges of the Lodge, the vote of the Lodge for expulsion was unanimous, and the committee would therefore recommend that the same be confirmed.

R. S. POPE, *for the Committee.*

PROXIES.

Brothers were recognized as Proxies: Br. J. W. Trinity Lodge; Br. M. I. Doake, for Trinity Lodge; and Br. William M. Ward, for Quaker Lodge.

IN GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

Brother S. Gardner offered the following Resolution, which was adopted without a dissenting vote:—

IN GRAND LODGE, March 13, A.L. 5867.

whom was referred the Annual Address of the Grand Master, respectfully submit the following par-

In relation to that part of the Address relating to the liquidation of the debt, the Grand Master remarked as follows: "For the liquidation of the debt that will be incurred in the erection of the Temple, I would suggest that a sinking-fund should be erected, to be applied to that purpose. This fund should receive the surplus income of the Grand Lodge from its real estate and other sources, after paying the interest on its debt and meeting its current expenses. In addition to this, I would recommend that each initiate, hereafter, be required to pay directly to the Grand Lodge, through the treasurer of the Lodge where he is initiated, the sum of five dollars, to be applied to the payment of this debt, or added to the sinking-fund for that purpose. By this arrangement the Grand Lodge would in a few years have their entire property free from all incumbrances, and the subordinate Lodges would be relieved of a large portion of their annual dues to the Grand Body; abundant means would also thereafter be realized to enable us to dispense our charities with a liberal hand."

In the present condition of the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge, this portion of the Address deserves the most careful attention, and the brethren called upon to consider this important subject should have full information concerning the revenues and contemplated expenses of the Grand Body. At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in the month of June, 1864, the members instructed the Corporate Directors to proceed immediately to erect a Masonic Temple upon the site of the Winthrop House, which in the month of April preceding had been destroyed. In obedience to the instructions voted, the Directors immediately set about the work, and before the middle of August following had adopted the exterior plan which is now substantially reproduced in the elegant building on the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets. At the time this plan was accepted, the estimates for its erection (exclusive of furnishing) did not exceed the sum of \$175,000. At the election of Grand Officers, in the month of December, 1864, a Board of Directors

which Board attempted to carry out the original plan of the estimates referred to. From various causes, but progress was made on the building during the first year 1865; but before the termination of the office the Directors had not only advanced the structure itself but had also at the stone-yards prepared to push the rapid completion in the early spring.

In the month of December, 1865, at the annual election, the Board saw fit to change the Board, to relieve some of its duties and introduce new brethren. The new Board entered upon its duties, and in some respects changed the original plan of the previous Board. This change not only increased the progress in the exterior structure, but also in its interior details. The Temple is now rapidly hastening to its completion under the management of the present Board.

The Winthrop House was burnt, the real estate, in round numbers, was valued at \$175,000. There were some debts outstanding which were cancelled by the insurance received, leaving a balance of the Grand Lodge about \$20,000. So that the Lodge commenced building the Temple without any means, except what was stated above, outside of the valuable real estate upon which the Temple is to be erected.

The Directors, in attempting to carry out the instructions of the Grand Lodge, to rebuild upon the Winthrop House estate, were compelled to raise money for the purpose, as the cash and treasure of the Lodge, and the funds of the Grand Lodge, of ten thousand dollars was early exhausted in laying the foundation. This has been done by mortgaging the entire estate to the First Church Savings Bank, for the term of three years, at six per cent interest, for \$150,000. In addition to this, a second mortgage has been put upon the property, running to Brothers Low, and Sutton, as trustees, for the term of ten years, to secure the payment of the bonds or scrip of the Grand Lodge, at six per cent interest, to the amount of \$150,000.

It will be seen that the contemplated expense of the building and its furniture, exclusive of the land, when completed, will be far from \$300,000, and this sum may be estimated

as the debt of the Grand Lodge. The real estate, in the opinion of good judges, within the last two years, has materially advanced in value, so that we can safely affirm that when the Temple is finished, the Grand Lodge will be in possession of a property worth not less than half a million of dollars.

The anticipated revenues from this property alone will be about \$30,000; but from the fluctuations of the currency and the uncertainty of the times, it is not safe to calculate upon the rents remaining at the prices now anticipated. The interest, insurance, taxes, heating, and other necessary expenses will fully equal any amounts which will be received from rents. The revenues of the Grand Lodge were, for the past year, \$9,440.03, and may be expected to fluctuate, according to the vicissitudes of the times, between six and nine thousand dollars, while the expenses of the Grand Lodge, including the ordinary charities, may be expected to remain at their present point, about eight thousand dollars. The expenses last year, under a careful economy, independent of taxes, rent, and interest, amounted to \$8,266.40. It is then apparent that there is not to be found in these resources sufficient margin to create a sinking-fund which shall materially operate to extinguish the debt. It is imperative that some plan should be adopted by the Grand Lodge to provide for a sinking-fund, to be applied to its liquidation. The Grand Master, in his Address, has suggested a plan which will, in his judgment, pay this debt and free the property from all incumbrance. Your committee have carefully examined the proposition of the M.W. Grand Master, and have given it that consideration which the high source from which it comes demands. In their judgment, the plan proposed will not yield a sufficient sum to clear off the debt, and will not give a regular and reliable revenue upon which the Grand Lodge can with certainty depend. This year the number of initiates may be large, and the next they may be materially reduced; and the history of the last forty years reminds us that they may be entirely discontinued. More than all, it might possibly tend to a large and improper increase of candidates, in some, if not all portions of the jurisdiction. It is true that much can be said in

sure, and a strong argument urged is, that after received should be compelled to assist in debt.

th our debt, the credit of the Grand Lodge importance, as affecting the rate of interest compelled to pay upon it. When ample and rapid reduction of the principal are arranged, capital is naturally increased, and we may be being able to reduce the rate of interest extension or renewals of the notes and mort-debt is now secured. This will be a great e Body, and tend to establish our prosperity. committee think that an ample and certain sum carried into a sinking-fund.

believe that a system can be adopted which for the Lodges, which will render a large and ue, and which, at the same time, will meet hearty acquiescence of every Mason throughout he proposition which they would submit is iated Mason shall pay the sum of one dollar e liquidation of the debt for the term of thirars that there are over sixteen thousand affilour jurisdiction, and the plan proposed would ,000 annually, and which, by careful computathirteen years, would amount to \$320,240.

ted is not a new one. Many of the Grand ry depend for their revenue upon a similar per affiliated members, and more than one Grand itself from pecuniary embarrassments by re-tax. It is believed that this burden is so light e known, and that the brethren of Massachu- it with hearty co-operation; that the Masons and Lodge will rally to her relief, and before the incumbrances which it has been necessary operty. In addition to this, your committee on-affiliated Mason in Massachusetts who un-

dertakes to enjoy any of the privileges of our institution should contribute something to this fund. It is notorious that some brethren, to avoid the payment of quarterages imposed by the Lodges, withdraw therefrom, and still, as inclination leads, visit from time to time. This class of brethren should not be permitted to visit any Lodge without the payment of something, and your committee recommend that the sum be fixed at twenty-five cents for each visit. It is impossible to determine how much this would amount to in any single year. It is most likely that it would have a tendency to induce the brethren non-affiliated to connect themselves with some of the Lodges.

If the plan proposed by your committee can be carried out in ten years from now, we shall see our Grand Lodge entirely free from debt, in possession of property worth over half a million of dollars, and with a revenue ample enough to place our masonic charities upon a systematic foundation. The Lodges could then be relieved from taxation for the support of the Grand Lodge. Every brother in the jurisdiction, if needy, could enjoy its benefits. The widows and orphans would not in vain apply for assistance. Greater and more extensive charities than we have conceived of in our day could be inaugurated. It would be within the power of the Grand Lodge to establish a system of benevolence which would be grand and imposing.

The Temple of Masonry itself, free from every liability, will be the common property of the Masons of Massachusetts, to which they can repair as to their own masonic home, as did the ancient Israelites to the Temple of Jerusalem, in the days of its pride and glory, from all parts of Judea, to participate in the solemn ceremonies of their festivals.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the accompanying resolutions. They also ask for further time to report upon other matters contained in the address.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY.

BENJAMIN DEAN.

, in behalf of the same committee, then
g order, which was also unanimously

SINKING-FUND.

of defraying the indebtedness of the Grand
incumbrances upon the Temple, and placing
upon an independent basis,—it is hereby
by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as

one dollar, as Grand Lodge dues, shall be
y of September, annually, for the term of
ry affiliated Mason under our jurisdiction.
collected by the Lodges of their members,
riect Deputy Grand Masters, at their annual

aying the sum of ten dollars at one time,
empt from the operation of this decree.

Mason, residing in the State of Massachu-
y Lodge without first paying the sum of
each visit, which sum shall be paid by the
t Deputy Grand Master, as before ordered.

and constitute the sinking-fund of the Grand
moneys unappropriated at the end of each
and the same shall be separately invested by
under the direction of the Board of Direc-
the payment of the debt upon the Temple.

urer, at the Annual Meeting of the Grand
full and exact report of the sinking-fund, of
from each Lodge, the amount invested, and
all matters relating thereto.

m D. Coolidge submitted a motion to the
sters of Lodges be requested to report the

number and names of the members of their respective Lodges who may decide to pay the ten dollars, as provided for in the above order, which was referred to the Board of Directors.

The Grand Secretary announced that he had upon his desk the Dispensations and Returns of Excelsior and Kilwinning Lodges, which were referred to committees, who subsequently offered the following Reports, which were adopted : —

EXCELSIOR LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 13, 1867.

The committee on the By-Laws and Records of Excelsior Lodge, Franklin, would report that the By-Laws are in accordance with the principles and practices of the Grand Lodge. The Records are fairly kept and well expressed. The committee would suggest to omit in the Records that candidates for degrees were present when they received their degree, for an absent candidate could not be a recipient.

They recommend that the petition for a Charter be granted.

WINSLOW LEWIS.
CHARLES HEYWOOD
IVORY H. POPE.

KILWINNING LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 13, 1867.

M.W. GRAND MASTER, — The committee to whom was referred the petition of Kilwinning Lodge, of Lowell, for a Charter, submit the following Report : —

On examination, your committee find the Records beautifully and correctly kept, and that the By-Laws conform in all respects to the Constitutions of this Grand Lodge. Your committee therefore recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

J. W. DADMON.
WILLIAM SUTTON
PETER C. JONES.

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTIONS.

Following Amendment of the Constitutions was presented by R.W. Br. William S. Gardner, and referred to R.W. Brothers William D. Coolidge and Isaac H. Wright:—

Article V. of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge be amended by adding thereto, after Sect. 22, the following:—

No Lodge shall receive or act under any corporate charter granted by any Legislature or political government, and no Lodge having such charter of incorporation or acting thereunder shall, while under this jurisdiction, will operate as a surrender of its Masonic Charter from this Grand Lodge.

Report of R.W. Br. William D. Coolidge, the Committee on the Style of Jewels for Past Grand Officers were delivered to the Executive Officers of the Grand Lodge.

V. Grand Master announced that the Dedication of the new Masonic Temple would take place on the twenty-first of June next.

Mr. Isaac H. Wright asked for the decision of the Grand Lodge on the memorial presented at the last Communication and reserved by him for consideration. In reply, the Grand Master stated that he did not think the paper properly entertained by the Grand Lodge.

The Communication and Lodge was then closed in Ample Form. The Grand Chaplain.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

JUNE 12, A.L. 5867.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE was held at Freemasons' Hall, Summer Street, Boston, on Wednesday, June 12, A.L. 5867.

Present.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. TIMOTHY INGRAHAM	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. CLEMENT A. WALKER	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE	Grand Lecturer.
Br. JOHN B. RHODES	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1
R.W. S. O. DEARBORN	District No. 2
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT	District No. 3
R.W. GEORGE H. PIERSON	District No. 4
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 5
R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL	District No. 6
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District No. 7
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 8
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 9
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District No. 10
R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 11
R.W. JONATHAN R. GAY	District No. 12

E. H. TABER	District No. 14.
S. S. POPE	District No. 15.
BICKNELL	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
OW LEWIS	" " "
AM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
AM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
P. WELLS	" " " "
R. PAIGE	" " " "
E W. WARREN	" " " "
ER TOLMAN	Past Grand Warden.
ORD L. WALES	" " "
AM W. BAKER	" " "
AM S. GARDNER	" " "
H. SHEPPARD	" " "
H. WRIGHT	" " "
C. JONES	" " "
THORNTON	" " "

and Lodge was opened in Ample Form at a
 at two o'clock, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.
 ord of the last Communication was read.

W. Grand Master reported to the Grand Lodge
 in the case of a complaint against Br. R. B. Dean,
 re Lodge, whom he had found it necessary to sus-
 his office of W. Master of said Lodge, and sub-
 charges, correspondence, and documents on which
 was based; all of which, on motion of the Grand
 were referred to R.W. Brothers William S. Gard-
 am D. Coolidge, and Henry Chickering, with power
 n the accused before them, together with the wit-
 l to send for such papers and records of the Lodge
 y deem essential or necessary to a full and impar-
 gation of the charges, and to report their doings

in the premises to the Grand Lodge, at its Quarterly Communication in September next, with such recommendations as in their judgment may be proper, for the final action of the Grand Lodge.

Whereupon, on motion, it was *Voted*, That the suspension of the W. Master of Berkshire Lodge by the Grand Master be continued until otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

The following proxies were presented and recognized : —

Cincinnatus Lodge, Br. M. E. Tobey ; Martha's Vineyard Lodge, Br. S. A. Thomas ; Republican Lodge, Br. E. A. Graves ; King Solomon's Lodge, W. Br. G. P. Kettell ; Grecian Lodge, Br. S. W. North ; Merrimack Lodge, Br. B. F. Leighton.

Returns were received from Eliot Lodge, Jamaica Plain ; Oriental, Edgartown ; and Siloam, Westboro' ; all of which have been working the past year under Dispensations, and referred to R.W. Brothers William D. Coolidge, Winslow Lewis, and A. A. Burditt, who subsequently offered the following Reports, which were adopted : —

ORIENTAL LODGE.

The committee on the application of Oriental Lodge, at Edgartown, Massachusetts, respectfully report, —

That they find the Records and Proceedings of the Lodge correct and in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge, and in every respect entitled to the confidence thereof.

The committee find that inexperienced brethren, in the compilation of the By-Laws of Lodges, are very apt to introduce irrelevant matter. A code of By-Laws should be concise and explicit, and, as was stated in the published volume of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge last year, page 36 to 45, that Lodges are not

an inquisitorial court." Masonry stands aloof from
 es, and attends exclusively to her sacred calling. The
 cannot but refer these reports to the careful considera-
 e brethren.

nittee have made a slight amendment in the By-Laws.
 eedings of the Lodge are fairly kept, and show that
 rs have labored zealously during the year of Dispen-
 ar committee recommend that a Charter be granted, as
 and that the By-Laws, as amended by your com-
 mitted.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

A. A. BURDITT. .

ELIOT LODGE.

nittee to whom was referred the application of Eliot
 Jamaica Plains, for a Charter, have examined with
 st the Proceedings of the brethren while under Dis-
 and respectfully report, —

r Records and Returns are in perfect order, and the
 ode of By-Laws which they have submitted, so con-
 rect, shows great skill and experience on the part of
 a who originated this Lodge, so promotive of the
 Grand Lodge and the harmony and happiness of the

nittee commend that a Charter be granted them.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

A. A. BURDITT.

SILAM LODGE.

nittee to whom was referred the petition of certain
 ay for a Charter empowering them to form and
 e in Westboro, Massachusetts, by the name of Silam
 ectfully report, —

That they have examined the Proceedings of the brethren while under Dispensation, and the By-Laws presented for approval.

This Lodge, after a year of unusual work and labor, having entered, crafted, and raised twenty-five brethren, and holding meetings nearly every week of the entire year, now asks for a Charter. The committee would not hesitate for a moment to render to these brethren the praise for unusual zeal in the formation and progress of their Lodge, but zeal in Masonry must be according to knowledge, and while all credit is due to these brethren for energy and perseverance, the committee cannot but regret to find that in some instances they have much needed the counsel of wise and judicious brethren.

The committee, while granting this new Lodge the possession of great zeal in the work, and the best motives, recommend this new Lodge to the counsel and best advice of R.W. Br. H. C. Skinner, District Deputy of the Twelfth District, and when they shall have amended the errors of the past year and produced a code of By-Laws satisfactory to the M.W. Grand Master, that then a Charter should be issued to them, and not until then.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

A. A. BURDITT.

W. Br. George P. Kettell, Proxy of King Solomon's Lodge, presented the following memorial in behalf of that body : —

To the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Master, Wardens, and Members of King Solomon's Lodge respectfully represent —

That, in their opinion, the order passed by the Grand Lodge at its Quarterly Communication in March last, whereby the dues to the Grand Lodge are greatly increased in the form of a direct tax, was hastily adopted, without the opportunity for discussion by the Lodges which its importance required.

memorialists, with due deference to the wisdom of the
e, further represent that in their opinion, the adoption
named edict was in conflict with the permanently estab-
ations of the Grand Lodge, and therefore unconstitu-
rder being an alteration of the provision of the Consti-
a establishes the Grand Lodge "dues," and therefore,
ovisions of Section 22 of Part Fifth, should not have
d at the meeting at which it was proposed, but should
ferred to a committee, without further action, until
arterly Communication.

their action upon the opinions set forth in the above
our memorialists respectfully but earnestly protest
enforcement of the order of the thirteenth of March,
ut such further discussion and legislation as shall
inly constitutional, and invest it with the unquestion-
f approval by the Lodges.

f the fact that they represent one of the oldest organi-
e jurisdiction, — an organization whose fidelity to prin-
lity to the Grand Lodge have never been questioned, —
ingly in view the interest of the craft, your memorial-
elled thus to address you, in the fear lest a dangerous
ay disturb the harmony of the fraternity, and even
sentiment of respect for and obedience to the Grand
ch is our strongest safeguard against discord and
ch we are sorry to remember have crept into more
isdiction, seriously impairing their general usefulness,
their good report.

councils of our Grand Body be still guided by the
ch has made them so eminent in the past, and the
e of Massachusetts be not only the dignified ruler, but
alma mater and friendly guide of the Lodges under

. Thus, —

"So grand a structure shall we raise,
That man shall wonder, angels gaze;
By art divine it shall be reared,
Nor shall the hammer's noise be heard."

At a Regular Communication of King Solomon's Lodge, h
May 14, A.L. 5867, the foregoing *Protest* was adopted by a v
of 59 to 3.

At a Regular Communication of King Solomon's Lodge, t
June 11, A.L. 5867, *Ordered*, That the Protest adopted May
be forwarded to the Grand Lodge by the proper officers.

Attest,

GEORGE H. MARDEN,

Secretary King Solomon's L

The reading of the foregoing elicited a long and able
cussion, when, on motion, the document was referred t
committee of sixteen, to consist of one member from each
the sixteen Masonic Districts. The Grand Master sub
sequently appointed the following brethren to compose
committee, viz., R.W. Brothers George W. War
Charles L. Woodbury, Benjamin Dean, Henry Endie
William Sutton, Lemuel A. Bishop, William S. Gard
Wendell T. Davis, Henry Chickering, David W. Cra
H. Goddard, Henry C. Skinner, J. R. Gay, George
Taber, R. S. Pope, Z. L. Bicknell.

The Proceedings of Star of Bethlehem Lodge, in the
pulsion of Br. Otho Hamilton, and of Mount Tom Lodge
the expulsion of Br. Bradford S. Bucklin, were presented
referred to W. Br. John W. Dadmun, and R.W. Brot
R. S. Pope and David W. Crafts, who subsequently off
the following Report, which was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, June 12, 18

M.W. GRAND MASTER, — The committee to whom was
ferred the papers in the trial of Otho Hamilton, a member of
of Bethlehem Lodge, Chelsea, respectfully report, —

Record does not state whether the brother was ex-
membership or from Masonry. Your committee
commend that the papers be returned for correction.
e of the trial of Bradford A. Bucklin, a member of
Lodge, Holyoke, your committee find that Section 4,
f the Constitutions, has not been complied with,
e recommend that the papers be returned for correc-

JOHN W. DADMUN.

R. S. POPE.

DAVID W. CRAFTS.

George P. Kettell moved that the enforcement of
imposing a capitation tax on the members of the
suspended until the next Communication of the
ge, which motion was adopted, but subsequently
l.

. Charles L. Woodbury offered the following res-
ch was unanimously adopted : —

That this Grand Lodge hereby pledges the faith of
y of the Commonwealth to sustain the M.W. Grand
the Board of Directors in completing and paying for
sonic Temple, now being erected in this city.

Following resolution, offered by R.W. Br. Warren,
opted : —

That it is the sense of the Grand Lodge, that its
lay taken upon the reference of the paper purport-
rotest from King Solomon's Lodge, was not intended
be deemed as in any way rescinding the order passed
communication (imposing a capitation tax), but rather
w of causing the subordinate Lodges more fully to
the necessity for its passage.

•

The following proposed amendments to the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge were offered by W. Br. George P. Kettell, and referred to R.W. Brothers William D. Coolidge, Henry Chickering, and Sereno D. Nickerson : —

Part IV., Article 2, Section 1. Strike out all after the word "seat," in the tenth line, and insert the following: "and to speak on all questions in the Grand Lodge during the masonic year in which he was appointed; but shall not be entitled to a vote, except in the absence of one or more of the ex-officio Representatives of his Lodge."

Part V., Section 22. Insert after the word "Communication" the following: "And every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, within the territorial limits of Massachusetts, shall be served by the Recording Grand Secretary with an attested copy of such proposed repeal or amendment, within thirty days after the meeting at which such repeal or amendment is proposed."

It was then, on motion, *Voted*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to serve copies of the above proposed amendments, and of the two preceding resolutions, to the Lodges within thirty days from this meeting.

The Committee on the Amendment of the Constitutions, proposed at the last Communication, had further time granted them.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form at half-past six o'clock. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

N OF THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE.

JUNE 24, 1867.

GRAND COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND
SSACHUSETTS, on the 24th of June, 1867,
by such imposing demonstrations that the
y considers it proper to make record of all
eatures, and of the preliminary meetings of
and Committees of the Grand Lodge on that

ndence between the M.W. Grand Master and
the United States was as follows :—

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,
BOSTON, May 25, 1867.

Andrew Johnson, *President of the United States.*

ND BROTHER, — The Grand Lodge of Free-
State of Massachusetts has recently erected in
nic Temple of great architectural beauty, and it
edicate the same on Monday, the twenty-fourth
xt. The event will be celebrated by a public
on, and the usual masonic ceremonies. It is
ere will be a general attendance of the Lodges
this and the neighboring States ; and it is the
.W. Grand Lodge that, if consistent with your
ous public duties, you will honor the occasion
e. I therefore tender you a fraternal invitation

With the assurance that a compliance with this invitation will be appreciated as a high honor by your masonic brethren of Massachusetts, I am, dear sir, fraternally yours,

CHARLES C. DAME,
G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C.,
June 11, 1867.

Charles C. Dame, Esq., G.M. of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have received your letter of the 25th ultimo, conveying to me the fraternal invitation of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to attend the dedication of their New Masonic Temple in Boston on the 24th inst. It will afford me much pleasure to witness these most interesting ceremonies, and if in the meantime nothing occurs to prevent, I will be present with you on that day.

Accept assurances of my appreciation of the compliment of the invitation, and believe me, dear sir, to be truly and fraternally yours,

ANDREW JOHNSON.

R.W. Past Grand Masters Winslow Lewis, John T. Heard, William D. Coolidge, and R.W. Recording and Corresponding Grand Secretaries, Charles W. Moore and Charles Levi Woodbury, were appointed a Committee to wait upon the President, Br. ANDREW JOHNSON, and the distinguished brethren of his suite, and accompany them to Freemasons' Hall, on Summer Street, where the Grand Lodge had assembled.

The Committee repaired to the Tremont House, and, upon being ushered into the presence of the distinguished guests, the Chairman, R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, addressed the President as follows :—

PRESIDENT AND HONORED BROTHER,—We are appointed to wait upon you and to conduct you to the Grand Lodge of this State is assembled, pre-visitation to the new Masonic Temple.

Representatives of those who have been honored by the high positions in the Order in Massachusetts, we bid you a sincere welcome to Boston, the *primum mobile* of Masonry in these United States. We welcome you from our hearts as well as from our lips, and trust that you will find you have been surrounded by those who, in welcoming you to the United States, have had the pleasure of offering you the warmest also that their fraternal accolade is in unison with the sentiments toward you in both relations.

The President and his suite, consisting of Br. L. H. Major-General, and Br. Norris, Surgeon-General, and the Committee, rode in carriages to the Hall on Summer Street where the M.W. Grand Master received them. A procession was then formed under the escort of Boston Engineers and Knights Templars, and forthwith proceeded up Winter, and Tremont Streets to the New Masonic

Members of the Grand Lodge repaired to Sutton Hall. The M.W. Deputy Grand Master in the Grand East. The M.W. Deputy Grand Master ordered the Grand Marshal to inform the M.W. Grand Master that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had assembled in Sutton Hall, and awaited

The Grand Marshal retired, with the Grand Pursuivants, the Grand Wardens, and Grand Deacons, and, returning, announced to the M.W. Grand Master, who was received with the highest Honors, and who immediately proceeded to open the Grand Lodge.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

JUNE 24, A.L. 5867.

A SPECIAL COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE was held at the New Masonic Temple, in Boston, on Monday, June 24, A.L. 5867, at nine o'clock, A.M.

Present.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. REV. WILLIAM R. ALGER, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. JOHN W. DADMUN, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. H. H. F. WHITEMORE, M.D., }	
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, }	
W. ARTHUR CHENEY, }	
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. L. H. GAMWELL, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE, }	
Br. JOHN B. RHODES	Grand Organist.
Br. C. C. WENTWORTH	Grand Chorister.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R.W. S. O. DEARBORN	District No. 2.
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT	District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PIERSON	District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 6.

S. KIMBALL	District No. 7.
R. F. CONKEY	District No. 8.
CHICKERING	District No. 9.
W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
BURDITT	District No. 11.
C. SKINNER	District No. 12.
AN R. GAY	District No. 13.
S. POPE	District No. 15.
HICKNELL	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
M. RANDALL	" " "
W. LEWIS	" " "
M. D. COOLIDGE	" " "
M. PARKMAN	" " "
R. PAIGE	Past Deputy Grand Master.
L. WELLS	" " " "
WARREN	" " " "
S. TOLMAN	Past Grand Warden.
ORD L. WALES	" " "
PAULDING	" " "
M. NORTH	" " "
M. W. BAKER	" " "
M. S. GARDNER	" " "
ALL T. DAVIS	" " "
L. K. HUTCHINSON	" " "
L. WRIGHT	" " "
THORNTON	" " "
AN MARSHALL	" " "

and Lodge was opened in Ample Form. Prayer
and Chaplain.

W. Grand Master directed the W. Grand Marshal
the Committee appointed to wait upon the President
ted States and his suite, that the Grand Lodge
d and ready to receive them. The Grand Marshal
h the Grand Stewards and Grand Deacons, and
returned as follows:—

Grand Marshal.

Grand Stewards.

R.W. Br. CHARLES W. MOORE. R.W. Br. CHARLES L. WOODBURY.

R.W. Br. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

Deacons.

Deacons.

R.W. Br.	{	Br. ANDREW JOHNSON,	}	R.W. Br.
JOHN T. HEARD.	{	President of the United States.	}	WINSLOW LEWIS.

The President was presented to the Grand Master by Past Grand Master Br. Winslow Lewis, and was welcomed by the Grand Master in the following address :—

ILLUSTRIOUS BROTHER,— I have the honor and the pleasure to welcome you to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and in their behalf I extend to you a cordial and fraternal greeting. At all periods in the history of our Order, rulers and princes, members of our fraternity, have on convenient occasions laid aside the robes and dignities of office to meet their brethren on the level for the time being; to mingle their fraternal greetings and to stimulate each other in the cause of brotherly love and friendship.

We are gratified, my illustrious Brother, that you, the head of this great nation, with your many cares and duties, have found it convenient to be with us to-day, and participate in the important ceremonies of this occasion. I extend to you my hand, in token of the sincerity of our fraternal sentiments, and as a pledge of our fidelity to the principles of the brotherly love of our Order.

Brethren, I have the honor of introducing to you ANDREW JOHNSON, our Brother, and the President of the United States.

The President took his seat in the Grand East, at the right of the Grand Master.

The Ceremonies of Dedication immediately commenced.

CHOIR.

hail to the morning that bids us rejoice !
 Temple 's completed : exalt high each voice !
 cap-stone is finished, our labor is o'er ;
 sound of the gavel shall greet us no more.

panions assemble on this joyful day —
 occasion is glorious — the key-stone to lay.
 filled is the promise by the Ancient of Days
 bringing forth the cap-stone with shouting and praise.

those that are worthy, our toils who have shared,
 proved themselves faithful, shall meet their reward ;
 their virtue and knowledge, industry and skill,
 our approbation, have gained our good will.

mighty Jehovah, descend now, and fill
 this Lodge with thy glory, our hearts with good will !
 beside at our meetings, assist us to find
 the pleasure in teaching good will to mankind !

wisdom inspired the great institution ;
 strength shall support it till nature expire ;
 when the creation shall fall into ruin,
 beauty shall rise through the midst of the fire.

S. K. Hutchinson, Superintendent of the struc-
 ture on behalf of the Architect, addressed the M.W.
 Master : —

Most Worshipful, — Having been intrusted with the superin-
 tendent management of the workmen employed in the
 construction of this edifice, and having, according to the best of
 my ability, accomplished the task assigned, I now return my
 thanks for the honor of this appointment, and beg leave to sur-
 render the implements which were committed to my care when
 the foundation of this fabric was laid ; humbly hoping that the
 work which have been made on this occasion will be crowned
 with the approbation, and that of the Most Worshipful Grand

The working tools were presented, through the Grand Marshal, to the Grand Master, who ordered the Grand Marshal to present the Plumb to the Junior Grand Warden, the Level to the Senior Grand Warden, and the Square to the Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Marshal, by order of the Grand Master, formed the Grand Lodge in procession, and the various Halls were visited, the choir singing an ode during this ceremony. On the return of the Grand Lodge, the Officers having resumed their stations, the ceremonies re-commenced : —

Grand Master. — Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, — What is the proper Jewel of your office?

Deputy Grand Master. — The Square.

Grand Master. — Have you applied the Square to the parts of this building which should be square?

Deputy Grand Master. — I have, Most Worshipful, and the craftsmen have done their duty.

Grand Master. — Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, — What is the proper Jewel of your office?

Senior Grand Warden. — The Level.

Grand Master. — Have you applied the Level to this edifice?

Senior Grand Warden. — I have, Most Worshipful, and the craftsmen have done their duty.

Grand Master. — Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, — What is the proper Jewel of your office?

Junior Grand Warden. — The Plumb.

Grand Master. — Have you applied the Plumb to the several parts of this edifice which should be plumb?

Junior Grand Warden. — I have, Most Worshipful, and the craftsmen have done their duty.

The Grand Master addressed the Architect.

ARCHITECT, — The skill and fidelity displayed in
 on of the trust reposed in you at the commencement
 ertaking, have secured the entire approbation of the
 ge, and they sincerely pray that this edifice may con-
 ing monument of the taste, spirit, and liberality of its

uty Grand Master followed, addressing the Grand

ORSHIPFUL, — The Hall in which we are now assem-
 e plan upon which it has been constructed having met
 approbation, it is the desire of the Fraternity that it
 be dedicated according to ancient form and usage.

er sang the following original hymn, the words by
 John H. Sheppard, and the music composed by L.
 rd : —

The mountains round Jerusalem
 The same forever stand ;
 But the dark clouds which rest on them
 O'ersadow sea and land.
 No sail is seen on Galilee ;
 No harp in Judah's halls ;
 The city, once so brave and free,
 The scimitar appalls :
 A remnant scarce is left in her .
 To guard the Holy Sepulchre.

In streets our ancient Brethren trod
 Rings the Muezzin's cry ;
 And where our Temple rose to God
 A mosque invades the sky, —
 Our Temple, which once stood sublime
 On Mount Moriah's height,
 A mould of Beauty for all time,
 An oracle of light ;
 The glorious handicraft of them, —
 The Grand Lodge of Jerusalem.

Its form and grandeur yet survive
 In every Mason's mind ;
 Though Mosque and Minaret may strive
 To leave no trace behind.
 The ideal presence stands the same
 Where'er on earth we roam ;
 Jerusalem, from whence we came,
 Is still the Brother's home.
 He ne'er forgets, while time runs on,
 The Temple of King Solomon.

The glory of the Holy Land,
 Though vanish'd from the eye,
 Still warms thy heart and guides thy hand
 Immortal Masonry !
 Like Venus rising from the sea, —
 A form of loveliness, —
 This beauteous, sculptured Fane to thee
 We dedicate, and bless.
 In Saint John's name, to Christ so dear,
 We consecrate our Altars here.

At its conclusion the Grand Lodge was formed in procession, and the Grand Chaplain commenced the reading of the Scriptures at the altar : —

“ And King Solomen sent, and fetched Hiram out of Tyre.

“ He was a widow's son of the tribe of Naphtali, and his father was a man of Tyre, a worker in brass : and he was filled with wisdom, and understanding, and cunning to work all works in brass. And he came to King Solomon, and wrought all his work.”

During the reading, the procession marched slowly around the Master's carpet, in the centre of the lodge-room, on which were placed the golden and silver vessels containing corn, wine, and oil. The procession halted, and the Junior Grand Warden presented the vase of corn to the Grand Master, who, pouring the grains upon the Lodge, pronounced : —

name of the Great Jehovah, to whom be all honor and solemnly dedicate this Hall to FREEMASONRY."

CHOIR.

"GENIUS OF MASONRY! descend,
And with thee bring thy spotless train;
Constant our Sacred rites attend,
While we adore thy peaceful reign."

cession resumed its march, and the Grand Chap-

cast two pillars of brass, of eighteen cubits high
a line of twelve cubits did compass either of them

made two chapiters of molten brass, to set upon the
pillars: the height of the one chapter was five cubits,
height of the other chapter was five cubits: and nets of
work, and wreaths of chain-work, for the chapiters which
the top of the pillars; seven for the one chapter, and
the other chapter."

second halt the Senior Grand Warden presented
to the Grand Master, who sprinkled it upon the
floor: —

*name of the holy St. John, I do solemnly dedicate this
VIRTUE."*

CHOIR.

ring with thee VIRTUE, brightest maid,
Bring LOVE, bring TRUTH, and FRIENDSHIP here;
While kind RELIEF will lend her aid
To smooth the wrinkled brow of CARE.

ding of the Scriptures, by the Grand Chaplain,
ceased while the Grand Lodge moved in proces-

“And he made the pillars, and two rows round about upon the one net work, to cover the chapters that were upon the top, with pomegranates : and so did he for the other chapter.

“And the chapters that were upon the top of the pillars were of lily work in the porch, four cubits.

“And the chapters upon the two pillars had pomegranates also above, over against the belly which was by the net work : and the pomegranates were two hundred in rows round about upon the other chapter.

“And he set up the pillars in the porch of the temple : and he set up the right pillar, and called the name thereof Jachin : and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz.

“And upon the top of the pillars was lily work : so was the work of the pillars finished.”

The Deputy Grand Master presented the vase of oil to the Grand Master, who, sprinkling it upon the Lodge, said : —

“In the name of the whole Fraternity, I do solemnly dedicate this Hall to UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE.”

CHOIR.

Come CHARITY, with goodness crowned,
Encircled in thy heavenly robe ;
Diffuse thy blessings all around
To every corner of the globe.

The Grand Officers kneeling, the Grand Chaplain offered the following prayer : —

“Infinite One, who art the life and light of all being, the author of law, the end of every finite existence, we worship thee, acknowledge that all we are, or have, or hope, belongs to thee. We know that every house is builded by some man, but that he who built all things is God. Behold the Temple which we have made, fair and seemly in proportion, as we are able to make fair and seemly things, stands completed before thee, waiting for

ance. We pray thee to accept and consecrate it by
on of thy spirit on the motives from which it has
on the purposes to which it is devoted. O, Lord,
of our hearts in the completion of this beautiful
brethren is as the gladness of those ancient men
bering the first temple, when they saw the foun-
e second temple laid, wept aloud for joy. May this
e turned into grief, but grow purer and greater as
enerations of our descendants arise for the better
the duties we undertake and transmit. As long as
stands, may those who come within its walls remem-
should themselves be living temples of God, keeping
clean for the visits of his holy spirit. We dedicate
to the tradition, the ritual, and the virtues of our
y no wrong, no vice, no discord ever enter here ; but
herous sentiments be nurtured, noble deeds be done,
pathies and innocent joys be experienced, until the
crumble beneath the touch of time. And when time
be no more, may a multitude, here trained for bliss,
that temple not made with hands, eternal in the heav-
aus, in the name of the Masonic Brotherhood through-
d, in the name of the sainted and illustrious members
in the past, in the name of the pure spirit and pur-
stitution itself, we dedicate this our temple in solemn
e, O thou Supreme Architect of the universe. Amen.

nd Master directed the Grand Marshal to make

g Proclamation :—

,—I am directed by the M.W. Grand Master to
I do hereby proclaim, that this Masonic Temple has
ly dedicated by the Most Worshipful Grand Master
d Lodge of Massachusetts, on this St. John's Day,
L. 5867. This Proclamation is made from the East,
e South, once, twice, thrice. The craft will take
nd govern themselves accordingly.

CHOIR.

TE DEUM LAUDAMUS.

The ceremonies concluded, the President addressed the Grand Master.

ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER, — It is not for the purpose of making an address, or, as we sometimes say, a speech on this occasion, that I rise, but simply to express my sincere thanks for the invitation I have received to be here and witness and participate in the dedication of this building consecrated to Freemasonry. And in being here, I would be doing myself an injustice were I to conceal the sincere and profound gratitude I have experienced in being introduced and received as the guest of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. This will be one of the events in my life to be remembered so long as the current that is now flowing from the central stream shall continue to flow. The remembrance of this occasion and this event will only expire or terminate with my existence. I am proud, I am gratified, that the opportunity has been offered me to participate with you on the present occasion, and to be your brother here. It has been one of the boasts of my life, though not often expressed, that I belonged to an association which, though not political, embraces principles which are not confined to particular localities or countries, but which have a marked universality, and embrace within its grasp the whole human race, making us all brothers.

Gentlemen, or, I should say, brothers, please accept my sincere thanks, for they are indeed sincere, for this most cordial welcome.

The Grand Chaplain pronounced the benediction.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form at half-past ten o'clock, A.M.

THE PROCESSION.

nal gun was discharged at eleven o'clock, when the
moved in the following order : —

GRAND ESCORT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.

ENCAMPMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE
ISLAND.

CHARLES ADAMS STOTT (mounted) Senior Grand Warden.

M.E. Sir CHARLES HENRY TITUS, Grand Master.

LIAM SEWALL GARDNER, Deputy Grand Master of Templars
in the United States.

Sir WILLIAM WILSON BAKER, Deputy Grand Master.

LIAM H. STRICKLAND, Past Grand Commander of Pennsylvania.

R.E. Sir BENJAMIN DEAN, Grand Generalissimo.

McKEAN, Grand Captain of the Guard of Grand Commandery
of Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM BULLOCK BLANDING as Grand Captain-General.

E. Sir SOLON THORNTON, Grand Recorder.

E. Sir WILLIAM BUTLER as Grand Treasurer.

Sir WILLIAM WARLAND CLAPP as Grand Sword-Bearer.

Sir NICHOLAS VAN SLYCK as Grand Standard-Bearer.

Sir SAMUEL DUNCAN SARGEANT as Grand Warder.

HENRY PHELPS PERKINS, Grand Captain of the Guard.

E. Sir EBEN FLAGG GAY, Grand Sentinel.

NATE ENCAMPMENTS OF MASSACHUSETTS AND
RHODE ISLAND.

ST. JOHN'S, PROVIDENCE, R.I. (70.)

Shepard's Band. (20.)

uel S. Ginnodo Grand Commander

NEWBURYPORT, NEWBURYPORT, MASS. (35.)

Mechanics Brass Band. (18.)

an N. Pike Grand Commander.

WASHINGTON, NEWPORT, R.I.

mpment did not appear in line, but several of its members were in the
ranks of St. John's Encampment.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF

WORCESTER COUNTY, WORCESTER, MASS. (51.)

Tenth Regiment's Band. (20.)

M.E. Sir Henry Goddard Grand Commander.

SPRINGFIELD, SPRINGFIELD, MASS. (54.)

Armory Cornet Band. (18.)

M.E. Sir Albert E. Foth Grand Commander.

DE MOLAY, BOSTON, MASS. (161.)

Germania Band. (25.)

M.E. Rev. Sir John W. Dadmun Grand Commander.

HOLY SEPULCHRE, PAWTUCKET, R.I.

*This Encampment did not appear in line, but ten members were in the ranks of
St. John's Encampment, of Providence, R.I.*

PILGRIM, LOWELL, MASS. (73.)

Lowell Brigade Band. (20.)

Sir Samuel T. Lancaster Generalissimo, Commanding.

PALESTINE, CHELSEA, MASS. (97.)

Chelsea Brass Band. (28.)

M.E. Sir George H. Marden Grand Commander.

MILFORD, MILFORD, MASS. (66.)

Mechanics Brass Band. (19.)

M.E. Sir George E. Stacy Grand Commander.

CALVARY, PROVIDENCE, R.I. (103.)

American Brass Band. (24.)

M.E. Sir Edwin J. Nightingale Grand Commander.

HAVERHILL, HAVERHILL, MASS. (75.)

Haverhill Cornet Band. (19.)

Sir Charles P. Messer Captain-General, Commanding.

OLD COLONY, ABINGTON, MASS. (95.)

Bowles' Brass Band. (19.)

M.E. Sir Samuel B. Thaxter Grand Commander.

SUTTON, NEW BEDFORD, MASS. (62.)

New Bedford Brass Band. (18.)

M.E. Sir John B. Baylies Grand Commander.

BETHANY, LAWRENCE, MASS. (65.)

Lawrence Brass Band. (19.)

M.E. Sir William H. Jaquith Grand Commander.

WINSLOW LEWIS, SALEM, MASS. (65.)

Salem Brass Band. (18.)

William Sutton Grand Commander.

JERUSALEM, FITCHBURG, MASS.

*Encampment did not appear in line, but members were in the ranks of
Bethany Encampment.*

HUGH DE PATENS, MELROSE, MASS. (104.)

Regimental Band of Charlestown. (25.)

William L. Fuller Grand Commander.

SAINT OMER, SOUTH BOSTON, MASS. (40.)

Morse's Band. (18.)

McBean Thaxter Generalissimo, Commanding.

BERKSHIRE, PITTSFIELD, MASS.

CONNECTICUT VALLEY, GREENFIELD, MASS. .

WOONSOCKET, WOONSOCKET, R.I.

*Encampments did not appear in line, but several members were in the ranks
of other Encampments.*

NEW YORK.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF NEW YORK.

S. PERRY Grand Treasurer

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES.

MANHATTAN, NEW YORK. (96.)

Band.

William Commander.

In the ranks of this Commandery were delegations from

MORTON, NEW YORK.

COLUMBIAN, NEW YORK.

INDIVISIBLE FRIENDS, NEW YORK.

CLINTON, BROOKLYN.

DE WITT CLINTON, BROOKLYN.

HUDSON RIVER, NEWBURG. (30.)

Band.

Scott Commander.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS OF

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

R.E. Sir CHARLES A. TUFTS Grand Commander

(Officers of the Grand Commandery.)

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES.

TRINITY, MANCHESTER. (90.)

Nashua Cornet Band. (20.)

E. Sir John D. Patterson Commander

In the ranks of this Commandery were delegates from

MOUNT HOREB, CONCORD.

SAINT GEORGE, NASHUA.

NORTH STAR, LANCASTER.

SAINT PAUL, DOYER. (125.)

Dover Cornet Band.

E. Sir Richard N. Ross Commander

In the ranks of this Commandery were delegates from

BRADFORD, BIDDEFORD, MAINE.

DE WITT CLINTON, PORTSMOUTH.

SULLIVAN, CLAREMONT.



MAINE.

GRAND COMMANDERY OF MAINE.

R.E. Sir MOSES DODGE Grand Commander

(Officers of the Grand Commandery.)

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES.

MAINE, GARDINER. (46.)

Gardiner Brass Band. (18.)

E. Sir James M. Larrabee Commander

PORTLAND, PORTLAND. (80.)

Chandler's Portland Band. (19.)

E. Sir Franklin Fox Commander

In the ranks of this Commandery was a delegation from

SAINT ALBAN'S, PORTLAND.

TRINITY, AUGUSTA. (40.)

lo Currier Commander.

In the ranks of this Commandery was a delegation from

DE MOLAY, SKOWHEGAN.

CLAREMONT, ROCKLAND. (45.)

es N. Germaine Commander.



CONNECTICUT.

The GRAND COMMANDERY was not present.

SUBORDINATE COMMANDERIES.

WASHINGTON, HARTFORD. (44.)

as H. Seymour Commander.

COLUMBIAN, NORWICH. (27.)

W. Stedman Commander.

PALESTINE, NEW LONDON. (26.)

Beckwith Commander.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

JAMIN BROWN FRENCH, Past Grand Master of Templars in
the United States.

WASHINGTON, WASHINGTON. (42.)

United States Marine Corps Band. (33.)

h B. Will Commander.

COLUMBIAN, WASHINGTON. (61.)

Stevens Commander.

anks of this Commandery were delegates from Baltimore, Md.



Extreme left line of Escort :

SAINT BERNARD, BOSTON, MASS. (46.)

The members of this Encampment were mounted.

Y. Warren Generalissimo, Commanding.

E. Sir JONAS H. FRENCH, Junior Grand Warden.

THE LODGES.

W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON, GRAND MARSHAL.

AIDS.

Capt. J. Kent, Chief of Staff, Boston.	Col. William T. Grammar, W.
Col. W. L. Candler, Brookline.	J. W. Chamberlin, Boston.
Frank Bush, Boston.	William O. Taylor, Boston.
Thomas E. Chamberlain, Boston.	John L. Stevenson, Boston.
Charles W. Stevens, Boston.	William P. Jones, Boston.

FIRST DIVISION—BOSTON DISTRICT.

CHIEF, THEODORE H. DUGAN, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

George O. Carpenter, Boston.	Oliver H. Cole, Boston.
George K. Guild, Boston.	John W. Davis, Boston.
George H. Chapman, Boston.	Otis H. Pierce, Boston.
George W. McKown, Boston.	Charles F. Wood, Boston.

Brown's Brigade Band.

Hammatt . . . East Boston . . .	I. B. Nason . . . W. M.
Joseph Warren . Boston . . .	Charles M. Avery . "
Revere . . . Boston . . .	George T. Ambrose . "
Winslow Lewis . Boston . . .	Thomas Sprague . "
Germania . . . Boston . . .	A. Sternfeld . . .
Baalbec . . . East Boston . . .	T. A. Foster . . .
Mount Tabor . . East Boston . .	Frederick Pease . .

Portsmouth Cornet Band.

Mount Lebanon . Boston . . .	Ira D. Davenport . .
Columbian . . . Boston . . .	Josiah A. Stearns . .
Massachusetts . Boston . . .	Charles O. Fox . .
St. Andrew's . . Boston . . .	William F. Davis . .

Gilmore's Band.

St. John's . . . Boston . . .	James B. Pickett . .
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SECOND DIVISION—CHARLESTOWN DISTRICT.

CHIEF, GEORGE W. HEATH, MELROSE.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

Levi S. Gould, Melrose.	Charles H. Isburg, Melrose.
Joseph D. Wild, Melrose.	Joseph H. Whall, Boston.

Metropolitan Band.

Henry Price . . Charlestown . .	E. T. Woodward . . W. M.
Mount Vernon . Malden . . .	John W. Chapman . .

. . . Melrose	Daniel Norton, Jr. . .	W. Master.
n . . Medford	Henry H. Gilmore . .	"
hem Chelsea	Charles T. Gay . . .	"
. . . Lynn	David J. Newhall . .	"
's . . Charlestown . .	George W. Abbott . .	"

THIRD DIVISION—ROXBURY DISTRICT.

CHIEF, WILLIAM P. ANDERSON, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

omney, Boston.	Theodore L. Kelley, Boston.
lls, Boston.	John S. Moulton, Boston.
atick.	Robert C. Dunham, Boston.

Dorchester Cornet Band.

. . . South Boston . .	N. A. Apollonio . .	W. Master.
. . . Newtonville . .	L. E. Leland . . .	"
ample South Boston .	Benjamin T. Wells .	"
. . . South Boston . .	David Armstrong . .	"
. . . Brighton	E. D. Jones	"
. . . Natick	J. H. Parker	"
. . . Dorchester . . .	Samuel B. Hildreth .	"
. . . Roxbury	Samuel Little . . .	"
. . . Framingham . .	John Blair	"

FOURTH DIVISION—CAMBRIDGE DISTRICT.

CHIEF, COL. E. L. NORTON, CHARLESTOWN.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

vens, East Cambridge.	J. Frank Conant, Somerville.
ler, Cambridgeport.	William Locke, Boston.

Cambridge Brass Band.

. . . Belmont	William W. Mead . .	W. Master
. . . Cambridge . . .	William Wright . .	"
. . . Somerville . . .	William E. Robinson .	"
. . . Watertown . . .	William H. Clarke . .	"
. . . East Cambridge .	Henry B. Leighton . .	"
. . . Waltham	Samuel O. Upham . .	"
. . . Cambridgeport .	Fred. W. Gregory . .	"
. . . West Cambridge .	T. G. Buckman . . .	"
. . . Concord	George P. Howe . . .	"

FIFTH DIVISION—SALEM DISTRICT.

CHIEF, P. K. RANDALL, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

James A. Hill, Beverly.

John W. Stevens, South

E. Augustus Annable, Salem.

David W. Low, Gloucester

Beverly Cornet Band.

John T. Heard . . .	Ipswich	John R. Baker . . .
Starr King	Salem	Dana Z. Smith . . .
Amity	Danvers	B. R. Tibbetts . . .
Liberty	Beverly	David S. Shattuck . .
Jordon	South Danvers . .	A. L. Peirson
Essex	Salem	T. J. Hutchinson . .
Tyrian	Gloucester	William Babson . . .
Philanthropic . . .	Marblehead	Jonathan Cole

SIXTH DIVISION—NEWBURYPORT DISTRICT.

CHIEF, WILLIAM HURD, STONEHAM.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

Col. B. F. Watson, Lawrence.

Charles C. Dike, Stoneham

Peter D. Smith, Andover.

Charles G. Jackman, Boston

Pepperell Brass Band.

Tuscan	Lawrence	Pardon Armington . .
John Hancock . . .	Methuen	Jacob Emerson, Jr. . .
Grecian	Lawrence	John Haigh
St. Matthew's	Andover	E. T. Wardwell
Warren	Amesbury	Joseph T. Clarkson . .
St. Mark's	Newburyport	John M. Carter
Merrimac	Haverhill	John M. Poor

Methuen Cornet Band.

St. John's	Newburyport	Enoch G. Currier . . .
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SEVENTH DIVISION—LOWELL DISTRICT.

CHIEF, COL. E. P. NETTLETON, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

Page Eaton, Jr., Boston.

S. P. Bartlett, Winchester

Charles E. Merrill, Boston.

Thomas J. Marsh, Jr., T. J.

Manchester Cornet Band.

William Parkman . . .	Winchester	A. K. P. Joy
Caleb Butler	Groton Junction . . .	C. E. Morrison

Woburn	Thomas G. Davis . .	W. Master.
Lowell	Frederic T. North . .	"
Groton	A. L. Fessenden . .	"

EIGHTH DIVISION—GREENFIELD DISTRICT.

CHIEF, C. A. E. EWING, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

Edward Gardner.	Charles F. Sleeper, Roxbury.
Amos Athol.	Charles E. Smith, North Attleboro'.

Gardner Cornet Band.

Gardner	Henry C. Hill . . .	W. Master.
Orange	A. J. Clark	"
Enfield	C. F. Woods	"
Greenfield	B. S. Parker	"

SEVENTEENTH DIVISION.

Composed of Visiting Brethren.

CHIEF, WILLIAM F. SALMON, LOWELL.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

Amos Alder, Lowell.	L. L. Jenkins, Boston.
Amos Hill, Shanghai, China.	John Harrington, Boston.
Amos May, Roxbury.	George W. Rooth, Boston.
Amos Airbanks, Charlestown.	Frederic A. Wellington, Boston.
Amos Dords, Charlestown.	Dr. William Ingalls, Boston.
Amos s, Charlestown.	

*Dunstable Cornet Band.**Division was led by—*

Amos Cent York Lodge, Lowell—H. P. Perkins, W. Master.

Amos Landmark Lodge, Shanghai, China, C. E. Hill, Past Master.

Amos Lodge, New York. This Lodge was instituted Dec. 5, A.L. one hundred and ten years old. The brethren brought with "Washington Bible," upon which George Washington took his office as President of the United States, the oath being administered by Chancellor Robert Livingston. The Bible is one hundred and a curious specimen of antique printing. It was borne by Amos Dean, and escorted by Sir Knights W. Edwards, of Morton Commandery, No. 5, New York; R. T. Edwards and E. D. De Groot, of Amos Commandery, No. 28, New York; Fred. Berry, of Morton Commandery, No. 4, New York; and Henry C. Haskell and W. J. Haight, of Amos Commandery, No. 2, Albany, N.Y.

Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pa.

Orient Lodge, Thomaston, Me., Cyrus Maxey, W. Master.

Emanuel Lodge, No. 654, of New York city — B. Shuman, W. Master.

Following came representatives of other Masonic Bodies abroad, as follows:—

St. John's Lodge, No. 397, Prince Edward's Island — H. E. Starbird, W. Master, of Charlottetown.

Fenton Lodge, No. 109, Fenton, Michigan — C. W. Coe.

Hiram Lodge, Washington, D.C. — M. B. Moody.

St. James' Lodge, No. 94, Edinburgh, Scotland — H. E. Smith.

St. James' Lodge, No. 448, Halifax, England — William Vickans.

St. Andrew's Lodge, Portsmouth, N.H. — Nelson H. Cross.

Blair Lodge, No. 393, Chicago — J. W. Anderson.

Ancient Landmark Lodge, Portland — John A. Frazer.

Burns Lodge, No. 352, Halifax, N.S. — H. Nelson.

New Caledonia Lodge, No. 565, Pictou, N.S. — Colin McDonald.

Albion Lodge, New Glasgow, N. S. — Robert Dwar.

Alley Lodge, St. Stephen's, N.B. — W. A. Babcock.

Meridian Lodge, Pittsfield, Me.

Mount Norris Lodge, Eden, Vt.

Golden Rule Lodge, Putney, Vt.

Vermont Lodge, No. 18, Windsor, Vt.

Arundel Lodge, Kennebunkport, Me.

Nezinscott Lodge, Turner, Me.

John Hancock Lodge, New York.

Aurora Lodge, No. 49, Henniker, N.H.

Harmony Lodge, Gorham, Me.

St. Croix Lodge, Calais, Me.

Maine Lodge, No. 20, East Wilton, Me.

Eastern Lodge, No. 7, Eastport, Me.

Utica Lodge, Utica, N. Y.

NINTH DIVISION — PITTSFIELD DISTRICT.

CHIEF, GEORGE D. FENNO, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

W. W. H. Briggs, North Adams.

Walter F. Gardner, Boston.

Col. C. H. Hovey, Boston.

Dexter C. Bellows, Chicopee.

Band.

Lafayette . . . North Adams . . J. H. Shumway . . W. Master.
Cincinnatus . . . Great Barrington . H. T. Robbins . . . „

FIFTH DIVISION—SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT.

CHIEF, DAVID PULSIFER, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

, Springfield. William H. Guild, Boston.
 Phelps, Ware. William H. Pattee, Arlington.

Arlington Band.

. . . Ware	George Robinson . .	W. Master.
. . . Springfield	George T. Weaver . .	"
. . . Monson	E. F. Morris	"
. . . Warren	John Wetherbee . . .	"
. . . Springfield	W. E. Granger . . .	"
. . . Northampton . . .	Joseph C. Williams .	"
. . . Palmer	J. B. Shaw	"

SIXTH DIVISION—WORCESTER DISTRICT.

CHIEF, A. S. CUSHMAN, NEW BEDFORD.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

, Southbridge. A. L. Burditt, Leominster.
 A. Goodell. Henry C. Greeley, Clinton.

Band.

. . . Ashland	George F. Seaver . .	W. Master.
. . . Hudson	J. L. Harriman . . .	"
. . . Leominster	J. P. Lockey	"
. . . Worcester	Albert Walbridge . .	"
. . . Clinton	Daniel Marsh	"
. . . Barre	J. F. Snow	"
. . . Worcester	C. G. Reed	"

SEVENTH DIVISION—MILFORD DISTRICT.

CHIEF, W. HENRY ALLEN, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

, Boston. William F. Draper, Milford.
 Bird, Boston. George W. Hunt, Hopkinton.

Band.

. . . Holliston	F. E. Whiting . . .	W. Master.
. . . Hopkinton	George M. Oakes . .	"
. . . Webster	E. F. Smith	"
. . . Grafton	F. Waterman	"
. . . Uxbridge	Charles A. Taft . . .	"
. . . Milford	Alfred A. Burrill . .	"

THIRTEENTH DIVISION—TAUNTON DISTRICT.

CHIEF, J. ALBA DAVIS, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

Solomon Shumway, Webster.	J. J. Whitmarsh, Taunton.
Charles S. Segrave, Uxbridge.	D. K. Cross, Boston.

Ashland Band.

Hyde Park . . .	Dorchester . . .	Enoch P. Davis . . .	W. Master.
Alfred Baylies . . .	Taunton . . .	S. H. Eddy . . .	"
St. James . . .	Mansfield . . .	William G. Allen . . .	"
Blue Hill . . .	Canton . . .	E. R. Eager . . .	"
Orient . . .	South Dedham . . .	J. E. Everett . . .	"
St. Alban's . . .	Foxboro' . . .	Elisha White, Jr. . .	"
Rising Star . . .	Stoughton . . .	Bradford Kinsley . .	"
King David . . .	Taunton . . .	John E. Brown . . .	"
Bristol . . .	Attleboro' . . .	John B. Maintain . .	"

FOURTEENTH DIVISION—NEW BEDFORD DISTRICT.

CHIEF, WILLIAM J. UNDERWOOD, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

James F. Chipman, New Bedford.	Charles F. Wells, Somerville.
William B. Bothamly, Belmont.	M. A. Mayhew, Boston.

Middleboro' Cornet Band.

Mayflower . . .	Middleboro' . . .	B. F. Tripp . . .	W. Master.
Pioneer . . .	Somerset . . .	N. S. Davis, . . .	"

FIFTEENTH DIVISION—BARNSTABLE DISTRICT.

CHIEF, OTIS E. WELD, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

A. C. Swift, Hyannis.	J. R. Bacon, Jr., Dennisport.
N. Bacon, Jr., Boston.	George W. Macy, Nantucket.

Band.

Adams . . .	Wellfleet . . .	N. Rich, Jr. . . .	W. Master.
James Otis . . .	Barnstable . . .	George Marston . . .	"
Pilgrim . . .	South Harwich . . .	N. D. Kelley . . .	"
De Witt Clinton . . .	Sandwich . . .	A. F. Sherman . . .	"
Mount Horeb . . .	West Harwich . . .	Ozias C. Baker . . .	"
King Hiram . . .	Provincetown . . .	John W. Atwood . . .	"

TEENTH DIVISION—PLYMOUTH DISTRICT.

CHIEF, JAMES A. FOX, BOSTON.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS.

bridges, Newtonville.	E. Waters Burr, Hingham.
Spear, Newtonville.	A. E. Scott, Lexington.

South Hingham Band.

. . . Cohasset . . .	James H. Bouvé . .	W. Master.
. . . Abington . . .	H. F. Whidden . .	"
. . . North Bridgewater	Enos H. Reynolds .	"
. . . Plymouth . . .	Charles H. Rogers .	"

Weymouth Brass Band.

ope . Weymouth . . .	William Humphrey .	"
on . . Randolph . . .	John B. Thayer .	"
ne . . Duxbury . . .	George T. Sampson .	"

Quincy Brass Band.

. . . Quincy . . .	Levi Stearns . . .	"
. . . Bridgewater . .	W. R. Churchill . .	"
. . . Hingham . . .	Charles N. Marsh . .	"

TEENTH DIVISION—ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

Chelsea Brass Band.

nn's Chapter, East Boston, M.E. JOHN TYLER, High Priest.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF MASSACHUSETTS (in carriages).

M.E. RICHARD BRIGGS, Grand High Priest.

ne carriages provided by the Lodges, Chapters, and Encamp-
ged and infirm Brethren.]

Hall's Brass Band.

Encampment of Knights Templars, acting as Guard of Honor to
Grand Lodge, Sir Charles E. Powers, Generalissimo, Command-
vided into eight Companies.

Company, General Samuel C. Lawrence,	Captain.
d " Major General Nathaniel P. Banks,	"
" Samuel W. Clifford,	"
a " Caleb Drew,	"
n " Henry C. Hunt,	"
n " Gideon Haynes,	"
h " William G. Train,	"

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS
(in carriages.)

Br. Eben F. Gay Grand Tyler.
Br. C. C. Wentworth Grand Chorister.

First Tenors.

Br. Edward Prescott. Br. Daniel F. Fitz.
Br. William B. Merrill. Br. George H. Elliott.

Second Tenors.

Br. J. Lewis Brackett. Br. H. J. Perkins.
Br. Henry A. Cook. Br. Reuben Ring.

First Basses.

Br. George A. Veazie, Jr. Br. George F. Milliken.
Br. J. J. Kimball. Br. George H. Hood.

Second Basses.

Br. Henry Alexander. Br. Joseph H. Bates.
Br. Charles Bates. Br. Henry C. Barnabee.

W. John B. Rhodes Grand Organist.
" H. M. Dow Assistant Grand Organist.
" Ivory H. Pope }
" L. H. Gamwell } Grand Lecturers.
" E. Dana Bancroft }
" Charles Heywood }
" J. Edward Everett } Grand Pursuivants.
" Nicholas Johnson Grand Standard Bearer.
" Arthur Cheney }
" Henry P. Perkins }
" H. H. F. Whittemore } Grand Stewards.
" Edward Stearns }
" Frederick J. Foss Junior Grand Deacon.
" Clement A. Walker Senior Grand Deacon.
" Rev. William R. Alger }
" John W. Dadmum } Grand Chaplains.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. Z. L. Bicknell District No. 16.
" R. S. Pope " " 15.
" George H. Taber " " 14.
" Jonathan R. Gay " " 13.
" Henry C. Skinner " " 12.
" A. O. Burditt " " 11.
" David W. Crafts " " 10.
" Henry Chickering " " 9.
" Ithamar F. Conkey " " 8.
" Charles Kimball " " 7.
" Lemuel O. Bishop " " 6.

George H. Peirson	District No. 5.
Henry Endicott	" " 4.
Cephas Brigham	" " 3.
S. O. Dearborn	" " 2.
James A. Fox	" " 1.
Levi Woodbury	Corresponding G. Secretary.
W. Moore	Recording G. Secretary.
McClellan	Grand Treasurer.
as Tolman	Past Grand Warden.
Harwood	" "
ord L. Wales	" "
palding	" "
m North	" "
ell T. Davis	" "
Flint	" "
el K. Hutchinson	" "
H. Sheppard	" "
Hull Wright	" "
C. Jones	" "
all P. Wilder	Past Deputy Grand Master.
e W. Warren	" "
s R. Train	" "
R. Paige	" "
P. Wells	" "
am A. Dame	" "
G. Smith	" "
n Parkman	Past Grand Master.
n D. Coolidge	" "
. Heard	" "
w Lewis	" "
W. Robinson	" "
entatives of Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Ver-	
mont, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.	
Mulliken	Junior Grand Warden.
l P. Oliver	Senior " "
A. Thompson	Deputy Grand Master.

Open barouche, drawn by six horses, containing

NSON	President of the United States.
ES C. DAME	Grand Master.

any of Boston Encampment, Sir William H. Kent, Captain,
*and cross lances, acted as special Guard of Honor around the
 Grand Master's carriage.*

Ingraham	Grand Sword-bearer.
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THE MARCH

Began at precisely eleven o'clock, and the Procession passed over the route from the Common through Boylston, Arlington, Beacon, Cornhill, Dock Square, South Market, Commercial, State, Washington, Franklin, Winthrop Square, Devonshire, Summer, Union Park, Shawmut Avenue, and Tremont Streets, reaching the Music Hall at five o'clock, P.M. The distance was probably four miles, and when the head of the Procession reached Winter on Tremont Street, the rear was in Summer Street.

On the arrival of the head of the escort at Winter Street, the Knights wheeled into line and opened ranks, while the Lodges opened to the right and left. The M.W. Grand Master, with the President of the United States and members of the Grand Lodge, with the Subordinates according to their districts, passed through the open lines and were saluted. The Knights Templars saluted the Grand Lodge and its guests by "Hail to the Chief" from every band successively, the drooping of standards, and the salute of the sword.

EXERCISES AT MUSIC HALL.

Prayer by Rev. Grand Chaplain William R. Alger.

O thou Infinite Spirit, who fillest immensity and eternity with thy presence, we adore thee as the Maker and Ruler of all things. Glory to thy name that our eyes are permitted to behold the light of this day. Thanks for the guardianship under which our Order has hitherto flourished, and for the auspicious signs in which it rejoices now. Thanks, O Lord, for all the good which masonic institutions have done. Purified from every imperfection, may they become even more blameless in thy sight and more glorious in their working among men. We supplicate thy blessings upon

s, duties, and hopes of this occasion. May thy grace
t to cause us to do all things to thine acceptance, and
true profit. We ask it for the sake of our interests,
name of thy goodness. O hear and answer our prayer,
y benediction be upon all our brethren, whether scat-
rth or gathered in heaven. And all the praise shall be
, for ever and ever. Amen.

ir sang the "Te Deum Laudamus."

rand Master introduced Rev. William S. Studley,
ered the following —

ORATION.

*Worshipful Grand Master, and Right Worshipful and Worshipful Mem-
bers of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of
Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: —*

out upon this assembly, and seeing so many persons
ks and wisdom are inwrought with the masonic history
eration, it is with unfeigned diffidence that I occupy
now the position which your unmerited favor has
e. It would have been my preference, most assuredly,
at the feet of any one of you, and to have heard what
readily impart out of the treasures of your masonic
a and experience, rather than to take upon myself,
moment, the function of utterance to your rejoicing
hopes. But, as a true craftsman, I could not refuse
voice of the Grand Master, when he bade me come
my recently chosen home on the banks of the Ohio,
to some extent, in augmenting the interest of this glad
Perhaps he thought it was fitting that the same brother
a prayer at the laying of the corner-stone of the new
uld lead in the praises which to-day attend the bringing
cap-stone. But I should have been tempted to resist
dding of the Grand Master, had I not been abundantly

satisfied that, however inadequate to the occasion my few words might be, the occasion itself would be sufficiently instructive and eloquent to compensate for any mere individual deficiencies of speech or action.

Though we are not here for the purpose of demonstrating the extreme antiquity of our Order, yet it may not be out of place to glance briefly at its history; not for the purpose of substantiating the traditions and myths of those enthusiastic writers who have claimed with gravity that its origin was coeval with the creation of man; nor even to insist upon what more sober men have claimed — that it had its origin far back in the religious mysteries of the ancient world; but to show that its history can be traced to a period more than nine hundred years distant from us — a period remote enough, one would think, to satisfy any American member of the Order who is desirous to explore the herald's college in search of antique genealogy.

According to some authorities, our Order had its origin among operative Masons in the early part of the middle ages. It sprang from the difficulty of finding enough men of skill, in any one country of Europe, to build the cathedrals and other ecclesiastical structures of that period. To obviate this difficulty, skillful men from various countries formed a fraternity of architects and builders or Masons, and they travelled from country to country, as their services were required. They encamped in tents or huts by themselves, and framed regulations for their own government, according to the peculiar circumstances of their occupation, and the itinerant lives they were called to lead. They styled themselves "Free," because they were at liberty to work whenever they chose. Many of the public buildings of England, in the Gothic style, were erected by men in companies of this association, and it is quite reasonable to suppose, as some distinguished historians have done, that the institution of speculative Freemasonry was derived from this professional brotherhood of travelling architects and artisans. They doubtless had signs, and tokens; and emblems, by which they might know one

and which tended to promote mutual assistance and fellowship.

In the tenth century, the Freemasons of England enjoyed the protection of King Athelstane, receiving from him a charter to hold their stated assemblies, and to enact laws for a more orderly government. As early as the year 926, a Lodge was instituted in Yorkshire. The tradition concerning this Lodge was that it was instituted at Audley, near the city of York, by a command from King Athelstane, and that it was under the patronage of the King's brother, Edwin, whose seat was at Audley. Whether this tradition be true or not, it is certain that there was an ancient Lodge at York, the original charter of which, an Anglo Saxon, is said to be yet preserved; and the Order is believed to have been continued in regular succession at York down to the present day.

In 1535, during the reign of Henry VI., an act was passed forbidding the meetings of the Chapters and congregations of the Order because of an alleged interference on their part with the industry and wages of laborers. Queen Elizabeth, at one time, was said to have intended to suppress the Order altogether, but by some means her wrath was diverted from this purpose into some other channel.

In the twelfth century the Masons pushed their way into Scotland, where they have ever since been a prosperous and influential body. James I. patronized the Lodge of Scotland and specified that a sum of revenue to be paid by every Master Mason to the Exchequer, who was to be a man nobly born, or a clergyman, and the appointment was to be approved by the crown.

In the thirteenth century, the German branch of the Order took the name of Freemasons, and took upon themselves the obligations of fidelity and obedience to those laws by which their brethren were governed.

In this period, it is believed, the Order was composed for the most part of operative architects and builders, but gradually, by the admission of many learned and scientific men into

its ranks, the speculative element assumed a pre-eminence over the operative, until, in the early part of the eighteenth century the operative element had almost entirely given place to the speculative; and, from that time to this, the Order has spread throughout the world as a speculative symbolical system, and has gathered to itself adherents from all classes of society, all shades of political sentiment, all denominations of religionists, all departments of art and industry.

The social character of Masonry in England two hundred years ago is shown in a volume of local history, which was written about 1666, by a member of the Royal Society and historiographer to the King. This volume says:—

“They have a custom in Straffordshire of admitting men into the society of Freemasons, that in the moorlands of this country seems to be of greater request than anywhere else, though I find the custom spread, more or less, all over the nation; for here I found persons of the most eminent quality that did not disdain to be of this fellowship . . . into which society, when any are admitted, they call a meeting or Lodge, as they term it, in some place, which must consist at least of five or six of the ancients of the Order, whom the candidates present with gloves, . . . and entertain with a collation. . . . This ended, they proceed to the admission of [the candidates], which chiefly consists in the communication of certain secret signs, whereby they are known one another all over the nation, and by which means they have maintenance whithersoever they travel; for if any man appear, though altogether unknown, that can show any of these signs to a fellow of the society, whom they otherwise call an Accepted Mason, he is obliged presently to come [to the stranger], . . . what hazard or inconvenience soever he [may be at in doing so], to know his pleasure and assist him. If he wants work, [the brother] to whom he applies is bound to find him some; or, if he cannot do that, to give him money, or otherwise support him till work can be had. [This] is one of their articles. And there is another that they advise the masters they work for according to the best of their skill, . . . that Masonry be not dishonored. [They have many such like [articles] that are commonly known; but some others they have to which they are sworn after their fashion, that none know but themselves.”

Thomas Ashmole, a philosopher, antiquary, and man of great learning, was admitted to the freedom of the Masons' Corporation

London, in the year 1646. In his private diary, under March 10, 1682, he speaks of receiving a summons to Lodge the next day at Masons' Hall. Under date of , he gives an account of attending the Lodge, and in the names of new members "admitted into the fellowship of the Lodges." He also mentions "a noble dinner," of which he partook, "prepared at the charge of the new Accepted

Master concerning the antiquity of our Order. What has been said, I think, will serve to show that when we have relinquished that which is purely mythic and traditional in its history, the Order of Freemasons has a legitimate record among the old institutions of the modern world.

Valuable as it is, Masonry is still vigorous in heart and may be well in this connection to indicate the particular position which it is entitled among the moral organizations of

What this rank should be is obvious enough to its diligent and sober-minded adherents; but some enthusiastic reproach upon the Institution in time past, by reason of its positions which it never designed to occupy. Being a fraternity of operative architects and builders, organized for their own convenience and protection, as they have been here and there in various countries, it has grown to be a source of almost world-wide social affinities and charitable activities.

It is neither more nor less than this—an ancient and established social and charitable brotherhood, deriving its principles of government from the precepts of God's word. It never intended to supersede religion, to take the place of it, to interfere with the sacraments, nor to take charge of the spiritual culture. It has never aimed to control man's faith any further than to insist that its own members, of whatever degrees, shall believe in God, the Father Almighty, and that those of the higher degrees shall superadd a faith in the Christian revelation. Masonry leaves to the Church the minis-

tration of the Divine ordinances, and the distinctive work of developing man's religious affections toward God. Its special aim is to develop among men, and especially among its adherents, a principle of charity; and by this I do not mean merely that spirit of beneficence which leads us to render material aid to the poor and sympathy to the sorrowing, but that universal and catholic charity which the apostle Paul declares to be greater even than faith or hope; that large and enlightened spirit of brotherly love which "suffereth long and is kind, which envieth not, which vaunteth not itself, which is not puffed up, which becometh not behave itself unseemly, which seeketh not its own, which is not easily provoked, which thinketh no evil, which rejoiceth in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth, which beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

That this is the teaching as well as the aim of Masonry, those who are familiar with its practical results will bear ample witness. Its history has ever been marked with a spirit of charity and forbearance toward each other among its own disciples; a willingness to bear one another's burdens, to make the kindest allowance for each other's infirmities, to excuse each other's imperfections, and to apologize for each other's faults. In this respect its theory and aim have been essentially Christian; and its practical results have corresponded with this theory and aim perfectly, perhaps, as could be reasonably expected of any human organization.

But, however this may be, for centuries past, men of different nationalities, men of diverse views in philosophy, men of various and varying types of religious faith, men of diametrically opposite political sentiments, men of antipodal habits of thought and action on all matters that have divided public interest and opinion, even men who have contended for the mastery of each other in the field of deadly combat, have been brought into harmonious and abiding social relations by simply discovering that they were kinsmen according to our mystic tie.

If it be objected that Masonry restrains the exercise of

mainly to those who have partaken with us of the
of its mysteries; and that it therefore fails to fulfil the
requirement of the Christian law to love all mankind as
may be said, by way of rejoinder, that even Chris-
for marked and especial affection toward each other
own disciples, for its precept requires us to "do good
in as we have opportunity," but "*especially* unto them
the household of faith."

not claim for Masonry anything more or other than it
confess it to be inferior to Christianity in its subjective
well as in its objective aim; but we insist that it tends
formation of dispositions and habits which are in unison
and teachings of the Christian system. It is pro-
good will, philanthropy, and brotherly kindness. Its
are united to one another by particular obligations, and
maintained with each other by certain secret signs and
these signs and tokens may be understood at once by
from each other's native tongue is altogether unintelli-
they will insure substantial sympathy from those who
of their interpretation. If that man who makes two
grass to grow where but one grew before may justly be
a physical benefactor of the race, then that institution
be esteemed morally beneficent which is capable of
the kindest feelings of fraternity among men of differ-
and parties, and sects; and Masonry has this power.
ies have a surprising influence upon the sympathetic
every understanding heart. Its Lodge is a place of
range, where the most interesting truths are mingled
best fellowship. "Its laws are reason and equity; its
are benevolence and love; its religion is purity and
intention is peace on earth, and its disposition is good
men."

the institutions which exist outside and independent of
of Christ, I know of none that wields such a mighty
moral influence as Masonry. There is no one which

exerts such a wide-spread harmonizing power. There are other institutions which merit the countenance and support of all such as delight in the increase among men of beneficence and fraternity; but these institutions have not behind them the accumulated force and weight of centuries. Masonry wears upon its forehead the gathered scars and wrinkles of a thousand years, and yet it is as vigorous to-day, as resolute of moral purpose, as if it bore upon its frontlet only the glittering dew of youth. We offer hearty prayers for the prosperity of all institutions who aim to unite men in bonds of amity and friendship; the world is wide enough, and the demand is great enough, to employ the energy of all. But it must be confessed that Masonry heads the column of that grand army which follows the Church of Christ up and down, and to and fro in the earth, conquering peace and fraternity among men. Let us see to it that it never occupies a lower rank; that it never yields its glory to another.

And this leads me naturally enough to touch upon a delicate yet interesting and important matter which occupies my own thoughts, and which is destined ere long to occupy the thoughts of all Masons throughout the country; and that is, whether, in time to come, we will be thoroughly loyal to equity and reason, whether we are the constitution and law of our Order, or whether we will allow our minds and hearts to be under the control of a passion and prejudice which are not altogether irrational and unjust, but which are in direct antagonism with every masonic sentiment.

I have already dwelt upon the fact that one of the prime tenets of Masonry is Brotherly Love; and, in its exposition of this tenet, our Ritual distinctly says:—

“By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family; the high and low, the rich and poor; who, as created by one Almighty parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support, and protect each other. On this principle, Masonry unites men of every country, sect, and opinion, and conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance.”

According to this exposition, in their exercise of Brotherly

sons are to have no regard to nationality, complexion, they are to divest themselves of all local, sectional, and personal prejudices. The necessity for doing so is Masonry is a unit the world over. It is one and the same whether in Europe, or Asia, or Africa, or in our own land. As we may need at some time the sympathy and assistance of our brethren in India, or Russia, or China, or Japan, or the sources of the Nile, or on the banks of the Niger, or anywhere hallowed by the footprints and memories of the great of mankind; and if, in the hour of need, we would secure such sympathy and assistance, our practice as well as our theory of brotherly love must be large and free. As Masons are to take no cognizance of party ties, or sectional antecedent social status, or previous errors of judgment. Even if they who have stood against us in line of duty, but give the hailing sign of Brotherly Love, the spirit of contention in our hearts is to cease.

Do not forget, however, that our special errand here to-day is to boast of the antiquity or excellence of the Order of Masonry, nor to answer any objections which ignorance or prejudice may have raised against it; for it needs no other eulogy, but its own defence, than its own historic record, simple and unimpeachable. But we are here, the representatives of our Order assembled in the parts of this ancient Commonwealth, with many distinguished visiting brethren from different sections of the country, gathered at the White House at the Capital, to dedicate to its use the spacious and elegant Temple, just erected by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, for the Masons of this jurisdiction. In discharging this duty, it is eminently proper to notice historical items which are interesting and important, not only to the Grand Lodge, but to the members and friends of the Order throughout the United States.

The first Lodge of Masons established in this country was here in the year 1733. Their charter was obtained from the Grand Lodge of England, and was afterwards known as the

Modern Grand Lodge. Their warrant was granted by Lord Viscount Montacute, Grand Master, April 30, 1733, at the same time appointing the R.W. Henry Price Provincial Grand Master who opened a Grand Lodge in Boston, July 30, 1733. It was called the St. John's Grand Lodge, and was known as the Grand Lodge of Modern Masons. On the 24th of June, 1734, upon the petition of several brethren residing in Philadelphia, a warrant was granted by the St. John's Grand Lodge, of Boston, for holding a Lodge in that place, and appointing the R.W. Benjamin Franklin their first Master, which was the beginning of Masonry in Pennsylvania; and on the 20th of June, 1764, the Grand Lodge of England granted a grand warrant to the R.W. William Bell and others, authorizing them to form and hold a Grand Lodge for the State of Pennsylvania.

This Modern Grand Lodge, at Boston, proceeded to grant warrants for holding Lodges in various parts of America, and from this Grand Lodge originated the first Lodges in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, and other places. In all these Lodges, the Modern Work was adopted.

In the year 1756, a Charter was granted by Sholto Charles Douglass, Lord Aberdour, then Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, to a few Scottish Masons in Boston, constituting them a regular Lodge, under the title of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 82, to be holden at Boston; and in 1769, a Grand Lodge, under the *Ancient* system, was organized by the assistance of two or three travelling Lodges, holding their Charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland; and the said Grand Lodge was called the Massachusetts Grand Lodge. General Joseph Warren, who fell at the battle of Bunker Hill, was appointed the first Grand Master of that Grand Lodge. They granted warrants for constitutions for Subordinate Lodges in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Vermont and New York, thus establishing the *Ancient* or Scottish system in many of the States, side by side with the *Modern* Lodges, holding under St. John's Grand Lodge

period, in most of the States, a Grand Lodge was established for each system. These two Grand Lodges, with the subordinate bodies hailing under the jurisdiction of each, continued separately until 1792, a period of nearly thirty years, during which time both systems made rapid progress throughout the country there being quite as many of the one kind as the other ; and the two systems were quite different at that time, the two systems could hold no intercourse with each other.

In the year 1792 a union was formed between the two Grand Lodges in Massachusetts ; the two bodies came together and established what is now known as the Grand Lodge of the Most Excellent and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In all the other States where Grand Lodges of either system were in existence, they renounced all foreign authority, and, coming together, constituted themselves a Grand Lodge for the State in which they were then situated. And thus was brought about a general union throughout the United States, so that each State had but one Grand

Principal grand officers of the Grand Lodges of the New States were appointed a committee to harmonize the systems then in use, and to provide a uniform system and uniform work and lectures, which should be adopted throughout the country.

After mature deliberation, these brethren were concluded to regard the modern work as an innovation upon the ancient system, and confined themselves to the mode taught by the Grand Lodge of Scotland and the Ancient York Grand Lodge ; and generations succeeding them have " pronounced their opinion in favor of the old work, and such as should be received by all true lovers of the craft."

At that time, our Order has passed through seasons of fierce persecution and fiery trials from without ; but within its own bosom and Asylums, during all this period, there has been a complete degree of unity and peace. Indeed, the pressure of persecution and trial which they have encountered in the past

has only served to bind the brethren together in closer and indissoluble bonds. It was worth while to undergo the assaults of prejudice and passion, for the sake of witnessing the unity of spirit among the brethren which these assaults made apparent to the outside world. For seventy years the Masons of Massachusetts have stood shoulder to shoulder scarcely a breath of serious division in their ranks, mainly at home and abroad, always and everywhere, the maxims and spirit of our Order. During this long period, there have been some timid and even faithless Masons, but they have never been found among the Craftsmen of the old Bay State. The Fords, and Warrens, and Parkmans, and Olivers, and Eliots, and others such as they, the fathers of Masonry on this continent, were not the men to prove false to anything so pure, and noble, and true. They were men who dared to be right, and to be right, though the whole world beside had been in arms against them.

Their descendants of the last generation, the men who survived the fanatical assaults upon Freemasonry forty years ago, were men of kindred spirit, who knew no fear in the defence of the altars which had been given them to protect. And when the storm of fanaticism had exhausted itself upon them in vain, they gave into our charge the trust which they had so faithfully guarded. How far we have been faithful to the trust committed to our hands, let this marshalling of the masonic hosts in England and of the country answer.

Some of these old veterans of the Order, who, in the course of their life, were witnesses of the anti-masonic folly which raged over the land, could hardly have expected to see the day when the dedication of such a Temple here in Boston would result in a scene as this; not that they feared for the ultimate respect of Masonry to the esteem of judicious men, but they thought that such a day would come so soon. Their expectations in this regard ought to fill the hearts of their younger brethren with a devout assurance that though, for a time, "clo-

may be round about Jehovah," yet it will always be sooner or later, that "justice and judgment are the habitation of his throne."

Now, Most Worshipful Grand Master, I congratulate you and those who have been associated with you in the arduous and responsible duty of erecting this Temple, upon the successful completion of the work. It is an edifice which you have reared, an ornament to this city, and a monument to the vigorous life which still animates the heart of the Commonwealth. May this Temple be a temple of Virtue, Piety, and True Beneficence! May the lives of its architects and builders attest that its corner-stone is Truth, its cap-stone is Purity; that its walls are Reason, Fortitude, and Justice; and that its pillars are Wisdom, and Strength! May every Mason who comes under its shadow remember that the secrets of the Lord our God are with him, and that he must fear him! And as the hour when the workmen were elevated to its place the head-stone of this Temple was marked by the burial of all feuds between two eminent but separated masonic bodies, so may this Temple always be a temple of Peace, as it was then the harbinger, of Peace. May the virtues which are wrought here not only spring from, but result in Hope, and Charity. And when we shall be called from the scene of our earthly labors, may we all have a peaceful entrance into "that building of God, that temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

At the close of the Oration the choir sang the following hymn composed by Sir Henry Grafton Clark, M.D.

Now open wide the TEMPLE's doors,
On 'golden hinges' moving!
Securely tread the solid floors,
The 'work' well-done approving.

Deep buried by the MASTER's care,
 On firm foundations lying,
 Its granite walls have risen, to where
 Our RED CROSS FLAG is flying.

From finial to foundation stone,
 From floor to groin-ed ceiling,
 It stands unrivalled and alone,
 Its beauties self-revealing.

Sweet summer breezes to the sky,
 Their odors fresh are flinging ;
 While swings our fragrant censer high,
 Its incense-clouds commingling.

But when the consecrated FANE
 With time shall be decaying, —
 And unto dust returns again,
 The MASTER's WORD obeying ; —

When these fair HALLS are desolate,
 And silent is our singing, —
 Seraphic songs at Heaven's high gate,
 WILL IN OUR EARS BE RINGING !

The Chaplain offered up this prayer : —

O Lord, maker of heaven and of earth, sovereign of all
 whose will is the supreme law of the universe, our Father
 bow before thee in profound adoration, and beseech thee to
 what they have this day done, and seal it with thine approval
 and with one voice we will ascribe unto thee, through thy
 good proceeds, everlasting homage and love. Amen.

All united in singing the Doxology, when the Benediction
 was pronounced.

And now may the guardian grace and blessing of God be upon
 every branch of our Institution to the end of time, and upon every
 member of it throughout eternity. Amen.

and Lodge and invited guests marched to the
onic Temple, and the festivities of the day were
by a

GRAND BANQUET.

At nine o'clock the Grand Master, with the invited guests
members of the Grand Lodge, entered Egyptian Hall,
which had been prepared as the banquet hall. The table
was adorned with decorations were in perfect taste. Enormous
bouquets of the sweetest flowers graced the tables, and each
place was also supplied with a collection of most exquisite
The viands embraced every luxury, which could
be palated.

A divine blessing was invoked by the Grand Chaplain.
The material part of the banquet had received proper
attention, the intellectual feast was opened by the Grand
Chaplain, as follows : —

We have been called together to-day, brethren, to perform a
weighty and important duty. It has become necessary
to erect a new temple, erected in the place of the one destroyed
in 1862. Our brethren and friends have come to join
in these ceremonies from different sections of this juris-
diction, and the interest they have felt in the object of the day
is manifested by the numbers which have appeared on
this occasion. Among those of our common brethren who are
present on this occasion are many distinguished brethren from
Grand Masters of other States, and officers who have
been in Masonry in other jurisdictions; and especially are
we gladdened to-day with the presence of a distinguished guest,
our worthy brother, the President of the United States.

Cheers were called for "The President of the United
States" and given with hearty good will.

SPEECH OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

MY BROTHERS, — In responding to the toast which you just drank, I can only tender to you my sincere thanks for the reception I have met in your midst. If I had intended to be inclined to make an address to you, I am free to say that I should have been inadequate to express the emotions and feelings of my heart since I came into this community and formed these associations with you; and instead of making an address on this occasion, I shall leave my intelligent brothers to infer what I would have said, or what I ought to have said, if I had made you a speech. If it were necessary to offer any excuse for not making an address to you upon this occasion, I think our country is amply amply has already been made. First, consider the time that I can be absent, and then consider the severe trial that has been laid upon me to-day, and you will perceive that this has been most emphatically a day of work, and not one of leisure. (Applause.)

I think the action of to-day — and we are sometimes called “action” — “action” — “action” — I think the demonstration that has been made to-day — the manifestations of feeling and emotion have been exhibited on this occasion — indicate the beginning of a new era in Masonry. (Applause.) It seems to me that the prejudice — I was going to say the incrustation — which has rested upon our order for a great number of years has been hardly visible to-day. The manifestations which we have witnessed show that it has been broken and shattered. Before you, I cannot restrain myself from calling your attention to the fact that I have taken part in many masonic celebrations and I hardly ever took part in one where I did not hear of abuse and jeers; but on this occasion, let me say, it seems to me that every man, every brother, felt that he was a man (applause) and was willing to wear and to exhibit and to put on Masonry with its denominations. It is a most remarkable thing, that this vast procession (for things may have been considered different mixed here to day) — in all that countless crowd, I have

first expression of acrimony. (Applause and three and hence the intimation that I made that this day has a new era, and that all that is wanting now; when being developed and its great principles being understood when understood all know that they embrace the and are co-extensive with the human family (applause), reached this great point, all that is needed is energy, and the consumation of the great objects of harmony ended.

ing Massachusetts — and I should not have visited its, at least on the present occasion, had it not been (applause) ; — but I came here, and in good faith, for the purpose of participating in and witnessing the dedication to-day to the great cause of Masonry (applause), as I could, be it much or little, give it my countenance and action. (Applause.) This being done, I have shown, for I have felt none. In this, as in most things in which I have participated, I have first satisfied my conscience (applause), and that being so, have left consequences to take care of themselves. And without this great foundation and strength, let me ask where would it have been. That has been the controlling, the indispensable principle that has pervaded Masonry from its advent to this day.

marked, my brothers, I did not rise for the purpose of giving an address, but I did not feel that I could leave you without saying so much, and, therefore, feeling that your convivial gathering was not entirely over, that I would have to leave you, I did so in rather an abrupt manner. So far as talking is concerned, I say this by way of episode, and perhaps, there are some of you who would not be prepared to concede that), I have not been very long for talking. I am not, as a general thing, very verbose or loquacious, and when I say to you that I have no more to say, I say it in truth. Most of the talking that I have done in my rough life has been more a matter of necessity than

choice ; but when compelled to speak, I care not in what place or before what tribunal it is (applause), when truth, when my country, when the great cause of the human race is at stake, I will speak (great applause). I have done so on many occasions gone by, when the very existence of my government and my country was in peril ; and I believe that the great principles of Masonry are synonymous and identical with the great principles of free government. And in talking to my brothers here to-night, let me say, if you examine the principles that you lay down as you approach the 32d degree, the principles which I have preached from my advent into public life, which at the present time will be there found laid down. Though personally a stranger in Massachusetts, yet politically they are my intimate friends and acquaintances ; and it matters not where we are, whether we are in the East or in the West, in the North or in the South. When these great principles come up before them, they understand them, and can act in concert and in unison (Loud applause.) I have never felt any fear, though the principles embodied in Masonry have passed through many ordeals, and their votaries have been subjected to tests of the most excruciating character, and all that. In that I have never wavered one thing. I care not whether it is in religion, in politics, or elsewhere, that in the pursuit and in the support of a principle I could never reach a wrong conclusion. I love the principle ; I am devoted to principle ; and think to-day, of the demonstrations that have been made by the people in the city of Boston, and by the citizens of Massachusetts, they should take fresh courage. I think you have had in the demonstration to-day a manifestation of feeling — an outburst of popular sentiment — such as has hardly ever occurred in the United States or elsewhere.

I said that I came here by your invitation. I thank you for it. I came. (Loud applause.) Though pretty well advanced in life, I may be spared some years, and the remembrance of this occasion will be green and fresh in my memory when I

e. (Applause.) I am gratified, more than gratified, to have had the opportunity of participating in the ceremony, disregarding the taunts and sneers, come what may. Then in parting from you here to-day, in bidding you good night, let me leave with you a heart that beats for the Order, and beats for our country. Then, fraternally and affectionately, may God bestow upon you his choicest blessings.

He was then called for "our illustrious brother, Andrew Russell," and a hearty given.

Mr. Russell stated that he expected Hon. William H. Murray of State, would be present to respond to "Our Country"; but although that distinguished gentleman was absent, he understood that he had sent in the hand of our brother, General Rousseau, to now call upon.

General Rousseau said:—

He was called by Mr. Seward, Secretary of State, to tender to the Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts for an invitation to dine with them, and express his regret that he could not accept it. He desired me to say, that on account of family afflictions, he had not attended a festival

and, at this stage of the festivities, left the hall; General Rousseau, receiving friendly greetings from the brethren as he passed down the hall.

Mr. Russell said that the labors of the day had been such that he felt compelled to call upon the Deputy Grand Master to take his place at the head of the table during the evening.

On assuming the chair, R.W. Br. Newell A. T. spoke as follows : —

This is a day for congratulation and thanks. We owe, in the first place, thanks to Almighty God for giving us one of the most beautiful days of the season upon which to have our first annual meeting at St. John. We owe thanks to Almighty God for having given us to rear here in Massachusetts a pile which I trust will stand as long as a monument of the patriotism, if I may so say, and of the fraternal character of the brethren of Massachusetts. I owe thanks, too, to those who have labored to erect it ; and to those of no one to whom our thanks are more especially due than to our Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. He has labored in season and out of season, without regard to personal comfort or pecuniary interest, giving his whole energy, I might almost say his whole life, for the past year, to the accomplishment of the great object which has now been consummated to-day ; and therefore I say all honor to him for what he has done. Well may he say, when he looks out of the hall to-night, after the labor and care which he has given to this object, "*Consummatum est*" — It is finished ! (Three cheers for the Grand Master.) And, sir, it is a matter of congratulation and of thanks, too, on the part of our distinguished guests who come to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and thank him for the opportunity that has been presented to him to stand before the face with the people of Massachusetts. It has been an honor which I undertake to say, such as he has never before witnessed. He has never seen the people of the Commonwealth as he has seen them to-day ; and, but for this invitation, I believe he would never during his continuance in office, ever have had that opportunity as he has remarked that but for the invitation which was extended him by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, he and his family on this occasion have visited the State. I say, then, in the name of the order of thanks on his part that he has had an opportunity of witnessing this celebration ; and it is a matter of congratulation

by his presence here, he has made a mark for Masonry in the country. I undertake to say that nothing that has occurred in the history of Masonry for the last half century has given such an impetus throughout the country, and throughout the State as has been given by the presence of the Chief Magistrate of the nation, who, laying aside for the moment his high official position, has come to Massachusetts to testify his regard and affection for the great institution which we all of us so much love. I am sure it will have its effect, and therefore I say it is a matter of honor to us as Masons.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, it is a matter of congratulation to us that we have with us this evening a brother Mason who has received the highest gift within the power of the people of Massachusetts, and who has in every relation of life, and in every official office, sustained himself as becomes a man. I give you the health of our distinguished brother Ex-Governor Banks.

SPEECH OF GENERAL NATHANIEL P. BANKS.

Most Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, — I am very much obliged to trespass upon your attention, and shall not occupy your

time. In consideration of the fact that I was to be relieved of the onerous duty of riding in the carriages with the infirm brethren of the Order, I engaged to be here to-night, and here in pursuance of that arrangement. Notice was given that nothing more would be expected from the head of the table when the dinner was completed. That is an excellent arrangement, but it is fatal to speech making; therefore I cannot undertake to make a speech, and I adopt the language of the illustrious General who has wisely left this table, and whose example I ought to have followed before this — “Please to anticipate what I would rather what I ought to say.” Besides, sir, it is idle to attempt to speak to the wise old heads that are here — absurd, and to do so with any effect, and I shall not attempt it; I will say, sir, a few things are to be said. The virtue of

hospitality is one recognized and acknowledged as the chief of the Order which we celebrate to-day. There is another, individual and private, not public, and that is gratitude to make grateful acknowledgments to the brethren of the Order for the privilege which I have enjoyed this day. I know that in my life I have witnessed a scene of festive and public demonstration, with more sincere and unalloyed pleasure than that which has taken place in the city of Boston to-day. I do not recall a single feature that I would wish to have altered which I could regret. I make my acknowledgments to the citizens of Boston and neighboring towns, and especially to the ladies of this city, for their cheers and their smiles which they have strengthened and welcomed us in every part of the march. I make my acknowledgments to that large body of brethren who have come from distant States here to witness the dedication of this beautiful Temple, and to give peculiar historical character to a pageant which, as a masonic pageant, certainly never has been equalled in this country, and which it has been equalled in any other. I make my acknowledgments, as a citizen of the United States, to the distinguished head of the government for his presence here. I am glad that he has given the warm-hearted people of New England an opportunity to show how they turn to a man who has been identified with the suffrages of the people. I am glad that he has given us an opportunity to show that the citizens of Massachusetts, aye, the citizens of New England, without regard to personal or political opinions, in the presence of the symbol of their government, dismiss all prejudices, all partisan animations, and do that honor to the government which it may justly claim from its subjects. (Applause.)

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, I have finished what I ought to say, but there is one consideration more which I will take my seat. There is nothing wanting in this country but the fraternization of its people. I think if the people of different sections of this country should fraternize with each

ht (and now with the facilities of communication and can do so), we should avoid many of those trials and which hitherto have embarrassed us, and which have not only our destruction, but the destruction of our . I hail the festivities of this day as giving a bright indication that there is one platform whereon, independent politics, and of all religion, upon a basis of social a fraternal, national feeling, the people of this coun- come together. And if there be no other platform altar of Freemasonry, which affords an opportunity en, sir, I rejoice in the evidence that is given this: e popular heart turns to the Order and its representa- a spirit and a generous warmth that that Order witnessed before. It is not merely because of the at has been afforded of the brotherly feeling, a fraternal feeling, that I speak of this; it is because this so- ternal feeling is indispensable to the existence of the under which we live, of the nation of which we are the flag that floats over us, that I call your attention And I trust that it is not improper to say that, among , though it is not set down, I believe, in the canon, ritten in the heart, that a brother of this Order is a e government and of the people of the United States. ar said, after he had recovered his reason, to the mad he met in the forest clad in straw and rags, that he mprehend the elegance or the wisdom of the garments was clothed. "You will say," said he to the man, are fashioned, but I like them not. Let them be So I will say of the masonic brother who is clothed s that represent hostility to the Government of the es, though they be of azure and gold, more brilliant above us, more dazzling than the stars that fret the our heads, in this Egyptian hall, his garments are For one, I like them not, and I trust they may . No, sir, there is in this Masonic Order a means

of exorcising the prejudice of partisans and of faction, which hitherto have threatened the existence of this country and the people of this country. If they knew each other they would like each other. They have the same interests at home; they have the same interests abroad; and if they can be made to know and comprehend what those interests are, the thirty-five millions of Americans now on this continent, and the hundred millions who are to occupy it before this century shall close, will be able to hew their way through the thick paths of privileged orders, and batter down the obstacles of oppression and wrong, though they be piled mountain high, like "Pelion upon Ossa." If Masonry can do this, I say, with all the sincerity of a brother and an American, God give it grace, power, perpetuity, and universal recognition!

The Deputy Grand Master spoke of the many distinguished brethren who had been invited to attend the banquet, and in appropriate language called upon M.W. Br. John H. Rowell, Grand Master of New Hampshire, who briefly responded.

M.W. Thomas A. Doyle, Grand Master of Rhode Island, was called upon to respond in behalf of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island. He congratulated the fraternity on the completion of the magnificent temple. He said if they flattered themselves that it was exclusively of the fraternity of Massachusetts, it was a great mistake, for it belonged as much to Rhode Island, which was an appendage of Massachusetts, and they should come to participate in the festivities to be held whenever they could get an invitation.

Provincial Grand Master Robert T. Clinch, of New Brunswick, being called upon, returned his thanks for the compliment of being requested to speak upon this occasion. He

pleasing allusion to the great interest exhibited by the men of New Brunswick in the commemorative services on this great occasion.

Deputy Grand Master said that he intended to call that veteran of the Grand Lodge, Br. Charles W. Moore, who for thirty-four years has held the position of Grand Secretary. This day has been the consummation of his long hopes, and he thanked God that he had been able to see it. As Br. Moore had left the hall R.W. Br. John L. Woodbury, Corresponding Grand Secretary, was called upon to respond. He spoke as follows :—

V. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,—It gives me pleasure to respond to this toast in behalf of Brother Moore, for I know of none more worthy to be remembered on this occasion.

He has been in the fiery furnace of masonic persecution, and proven himself a crucible to be without dross or alloy, true masonic metal. He found early in the masonic heart a warm corner, which, after thirty years and more of association, has glowed with affection and mutual respect. He has labored in the duties of the office with untiring patience, and his wisdom and strength have grown with his experience. Sir, there is hardly in the long history of your modern predecessors a Grand Master who would not willingly acknowledge the valuable counsels he had drawn from the experience of your accomplished Secretary. And, sir, I have heard him cite the decisions of the Grand Masters he has succeeded, and refer to many of their opinions as equal to the decrees of Solomon. Long may the bonds last which bind him to the Grand Lodge.

His teachings, sir, have been made to the principles of Freemasonry.

In my judgment they underlie all social progress. Back of the weary centuries of the feudal age, when caste usurped the place of brotherhood, when privilege ruled where equality had

ceased to reign, and when brutal power claimed a divine right to govern without any responsibility to man for the justice and equity of their acts, Freemasonry taught a different doctrine. Within their walls, under their mystic rose, the emblems of justice, equality, and fraternity met the sight, and their doctrines found acceptance in the heart and gathered strength for the contest that was to come.

When St. Thomas Aquinas first put forward the doctrine that the people had a divine right to a will in their government, there was an organized body of good men in society whose hearts were prepared for this new gospel of the sovereignty of the people, and whose institutions had successfully combined law and order with fraternity and equality.

Freemasonry has never faltered in its great work on the human heart, and what it has accomplished has been done, eschewing force and political power, solely by voluntary influences on those mysterious sympathies which bind humanity in fraternity.

Long before the reality of self-government had dawned on the minds of European statesmen, kings and philosophers had sought our fraternity and professed our principles; and when in the eighteenth century the human mind throughout Western Europe was agitated into ferment by the doctrines of progressive liberty, there was no idea taught within masonic institutions inconsistent with the social march. I claim for Freemasonry its generous share in the glorious work of the last century; and though I may not discuss the philosophy of that progress, yet I can point to the men whom Freemasonry gave to the cause of liberty in America with just pride that they should have been of our brotherhood. In your halls hang the portraits of Franklin, Washington, Warren, and Lafayette, whose great fame, warmed by a common love for humanity, exceeds the limits of a patriot's sphere. Wherever the light of intelligence rejoices the people of the earth, there gleams the lustre of their deeds, and the influence of their example extends wherever Freemasonry has a name or humanity a home.

masonry, whether it comes to kings and presidents, or to oppressed of earth, brings the healing freshness of charity reviving faith in fraternity and equality. A mere voluntary action for the culture of social virtue, knowing no distinction of wealth and class; where power is the temporary deposit of authority from the Craft, and where force to aid authority is shown, the internal life of our Craft has shown for centuries its profound reverence for order, and the strictest obedience based upon justice and equity. Let the governments of the world and distrust of the governed plead their ruined empires, thrones, and shattered republics, as testimony of their state. Freemasonry, moving in its modest way on its great moral basis, exhibits the conservative influence of equity, the power of unity, and the cohesion of fraternity, acting to elevate the individual and society alike to the noblest rules of human conduct.

Grand Orator being called upon, Br. William S. said —

V. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, — I thank you for your recognition of the "Orator of the Day"; but as there are many present who have had no opportunity to express the feelings which this glad occasion has given rise, and as I have already enjoyed the largest liberty of presenting my personal views on "Moral Rank and Offices of Freemasonry," I will trespass on your patience at this time only long enough to congratulate you upon the completion of this elegant and commodious hall, to thank you for giving me a part in the festivities of the occasion, and to express the hope that our ancient Order may continue to flourish upon this sacred spot of its origin in Massachusetts.

Deputy Grand Master referred to the Grand Escort of Knights Templars, and called upon R.E. Sir William S.

Gardner, Deputy Grand Master of Templars in the United States, to respond, which he did as follows : —

R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, — I regret that the Grand Commander of Massachusetts and Rhode Island is not present to respond to the sentiment which you have offered. . . . I know that he received an invitation to be here, but am informed that, with his Grand Officers and distinguished guests, he is enjoying the hospitalities of the Knights of one of his Subordinates. And I regret still more that the M.E. Grand Master of Templars in the United States, Sir Henry L. Palmer, is not here to add his eloquence and wisdom to this feast of reason and flow of soul.

The escort to-day has been a marked and prominent feature in the brilliant pageant. State after State along the seaboard, from Maine to Virginia, have sent their brave men and gallant Knights to swell the ranks of the grand army which has escorted the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and assisted in the crowning ceremonies of this occasion. Their gay banners, brilliant costumes, and gleaming swords ; their military discipline and gentlemanly bearing, have produced an effect upon the unnumbered spectators lining the streets of Boston not at all prejudicial to the great Institution which to-day has received the homage of thousands of men and women of every rank and station in life.

This is not the first Masonic Temple which has been solemnly dedicated in the city of Boston. In 1832, the Temple which has been recently disposed of, and which in its day and generation was as imposing a structure among the public buildings of this city as is this Temple at our advanced period, was consecrated to masonic uses.

But this occasion called for no public demonstration. Less than two years before, its corner-stone had been laid amid the jeers and insults of an excited crowd ; and such was the state of public feeling, that it was considered necessary to perform the ceremonies within the seclusion of the Grand Lodge. On the 30th of May, 1832, the Grand Lodge held a Special Communi-

in the Masonic Temple, on Tremont Street ; a procession moved in the upper hall, which was formally dedicated, and proceeded to the lecture-room in the same building, where anthems and hymns were sung, and an address was delivered. But brethren were present, and those were such as had braved the political storm which was then raging at its height.

Forty-five years have passed away, and behold the change ! Clouds of malignity and hate of anti-masonry have disappeared from the heavens, and the clear sunshine of peace enlivens the highest authorities in the Nation and the State, as in former time, have not considered it beneath their dignity to attend our assembly and encourage our art.

We have just reason to congratulate ourselves and the institution which we revere upon the marvellous change which has been effected. We have the right to claim that it is no ordinary occasion and no ephemeral society, which can summon the President of the United States, with members of his cabinet and officers of his army, from the cares and demands of official duties, to be dedicating this spacious Temple to the uses of Masonry. This is no ordinary occasion which can call from the towns and villages of New England, and from remoter regions, the vast multitude of men and women with which Boston has this day been crowded.

The Institution of Masonry which they have each and all honored ; and however persecuted and maligned it may have been in the years gone by, Masonry to-day has triumphed, and wins the victory.

W. Br. Isaac Hull Wright in response to a sentiment uttered by the Deputy Grand Master, was called upon, and thus concluded :—

MY WORSHIPFUL, — I have been well content to be present at this munificent banquet, to enjoy the goodly fellowship that is afforded, and to listen in silence to

the appropriate and eloquent remarks which have fallen from your lips, from those of the President of the United States, and from those of the other distinguished brothers who have spoken on this inspiring occasion. In response to your complimentary call, I might content myself with saying that I cordially indorse what has here been offered, and forbear to tax the patience of this company with any poor remarks which I could make. But my respect for the Chair, and my thorough enjoyment of the incidents attendant upon this splendid celebration of the Festival of St. John, will not permit me to resume my seat without offering a word or two in commendation of the brilliant display which the Fraternity have made this day; of the beautiful Temple which we have here dedicated to Freemasonry, and of the noble illustration of the beneficial influences of the Order, which the vast assembly of the brethren this day congregated has given to the outside world.

This has indeed been a gala day for the city of Boston. The clear, bright sky, the genial summer air,—the smile of Heaven,—has been reflected upon the gladsome faces of thousands upon thousands of our citizens, who, with their families, have swarmed in the buildings and thronged the streets through which the immense procession has made its triumphant progress. And when we consider that that vast procession have gathered together this day from all parts of the land, in obedience to a common impulse, animated by one and the same purpose, and bound together by one common tie, well may we pronounce this to be one of the most auspicious occasions that was ever witnessed in our city; an occasion long to be remembered and commended as a fitting and merited tribute to the ancient and noble Institution to which we belong. Union of purpose, kindness of heart, devotion to the cause of human brotherhood, have prompted and rendered successful the wonderful pageant which we have this day beheld, and not the behest of any crowned and despotic tyrant! In this we see and acknowledge the vitality and power of masonic principles, and find therein assurance for the prosperity of the Institution.

of this great display, worthy of the Order, is the Temple which you, Most Worshipful, have this day dedicated with ample ceremonies, to the uses of the masonic brotherhood. Springing aloft from solid foundations, it rears its beautiful spires to the admiring gaze of all, and displays its light and airy turrets and pinnacles to the sunshine of Heaven. So does the Order itself, based upon the everlasting principles of Divine Wisdom and human brotherhood, commend its tenets and ordinances to the approbation of mankind universal, and blend in its harmonious and enduring beauty the virtues of the present with the hopes of the future life. And as the lofty and well-proportioned and ample roof of this new Temple will shelter and protect its members of the mystic tie while they gather within its spacious and comfortable halls, so will Masonry ever succor and refresh, cheer, comfort, and sustain all who kneel at its altar and swear its solemn vows. The day, the occasion, the Temple, the Order, the unity of the brotherhood, — all, all are worthy of each other, all are most worthy in themselves; and I doubt not, Most Worshipful, that you will bless the opportunity which has been afforded to you to be present at this grand ovation to Freemasonry.

A full and complete description of our new Temple, together with the ceremonies at the laying of the corner-stone and dedication, we refer you to the elegant volume compiled by W. D. Stratton, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, to be published early in June. It will be in the form of nearly three hundred pages, printed on tinted paper and morocco cloth. Each copy will contain a photographic view of the Temple, and each chapter will be embellished with heading and initial letters engraved from new designs prepared expressly for the work. It will be published at the University Press, Cambridge, and promises to be one of the most beautiful volumes ever issued in this country.]

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

SEPTEMBER 11, A.L. 5867.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE was held in "SUTTON HALL," in the new Masonic Temple, corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, Boston, on Wednesday, September 11, A.L. 5867. "

Present.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, Newburyport . . .	Grand Master.
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER, Boston	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN, Boston	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN, Boston	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE, Boston	Recording Grand Secretary
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY, Boston	Cor. Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN, Boston	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON, Melrose	Grand Marshal.
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS, Malden	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, Boston,	} Grand Stewards.
W. H. H. F. WHITTEMORE, M.D., Marblehead	
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, Lowell,	} Grand Lecturers.
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, South Groton, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE, Boston,	
Br. JOHN B. RHODES, Boston	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX, Boston	District No. 1.
R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, Auburndale	District No. 3.
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT, Cambridgeport	District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON, Salem	District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, Lawrence	District No. 6.
R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL, Lowell	District No. 7.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY, Amherst	District No. 8.
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING, Pittsfield	District No. 9.
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, Northampton	District No. 10.
R.W. A. A. BURDITT, Clinton	District No. 11.

INNER, Milford	District No. 12.
GAY, Stoughton	District No. 13.
ABER, Fairhaven	District No. 14.
PE, Hyannis	District No. 15.
LL, Weymouth	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

BINSON	Past Grand Master.			
VIS	"	"	"	"
ED	"	"	"	"
COOLIDGE	"	"	"	"
DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.			
WELLS	"	"	"	"
IGE	"	"	"	"
WARREN	"	"	"	"
IAN	Past Grand Warden.			
WALES	"	"	"	"
BAKER	"	"	"	"
GARDNER	"	"	"	"
TON	"	"	"	"
.	"	"	"	"
GHT	"	"	"	"
OLDS	"	"	"	"
AN	"	"	"	"
TON	"	"	"	"
MARSHALL	"	"	"	"

Lodge was opened in Ample Form at half-past
h prayer by Rev. Br. Dadmun.

f the last Communication was read.

n of Otho Hamilton by Star of Bethlehem
asonic conduct, was confirmed.

William S. Gardner offered the following Re-
suspension of R. B. Dean from his office of
shire Lodge, which was accepted, read, and
ble:—

ee to whom was referred the charges, correspond-
ents presented to the Grand Lodge by the M.W.

Grand Master, in the case of a complaint against W. Br. R. Dean, Master of Berkshire Lodge, and who were empowered "to summon the accused before them, together with the witnesses, and to send for such papers and records of the Lodge as they deem essential and necessary to a full and impartial investigation of the charges, and to report their doings in the premises to the Grand Lodge, at their Quarterly Communication in September next, with such recommendations as in their judgment may be proper, for the final action of the Grand Lodge," respectively report, —

By the Constitutions, as well as by the ancient regulations of Masonry, the W. Master of a Lodge cannot be dealt with by the Lodge, but must be tried by the Grand Lodge. Section 1, Article IV., Part III. of our Constitutions, contains all the authority to govern us in this investigation, and is in the following language: —

"It shall not be competent for a Lodge to try its Master. Five members of the Lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master, may, however, impeach him before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if, in his opinion, the charges are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceedings, he may suspend the delinquent, and summon him to appear at the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge, to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and usages in such cases established."

It is certainly worthy of mention that this is the first case brought before the Grand Lodge, so far as your committee has been able to discover. No precedent can therefore be found in our history for such a trial. The Constitutions themselves are extremely brief upon the subject. From the documents presented to your Committee, it appears that in May last the W. Master of Berkshire Lodge was regularly impeached before the Grand Master by five members of his Lodge, and that on the twenty-seventh of that month the M.W. Grand Master suspended him from

the Senior Warden in his place. It also appeared at the last Quarterly Communication, this suspension of the Grand Lodge, continued in force until this Master was not summoned to appear at the Quarterly Communication in June last ; but your Committee, sitting in private, made a recommendation to the M.W. Grand Master to request him to appear at this Communication. Your Committee thought that, in referring this subject to them, it was the intention of the Grand Lodge that the Committee should advise how the case was to be pursued in a case of so much importance, and that it was not intended that they should give reasons for this conclusion will appear in the recommendations :

The first step to be taken is the impeachment of the Master. This is to be done by five members of his Lodge, or by the Grand Master of the District in which the Lodge is situated. The impeachment corresponds to the accusations or charges set forth elsewhere in the article above referred to, and the particular charges reduced to writing and properly presented to the Master is finally to be tried. He is to be tried by the Grand Master, i.e., the charges are to be

and the Grand Master is to order an investigation of the charges. The purpose of ascertaining if, in his opinion, they are of a character to justify further action, because the Grand Lodge should not be suspended upon frivolous or unimportant charges, if there is not good reason to believe they are well founded. The Grand Master is to conduct the investigation either by a personal investigation, or by ordering a committee of disinterested and discreet brethren ; having ascertained that the charges are well founded and of a character to justify proceedings,

the Grand Master may suspend the delinquent and summon him to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge. Suspension may be followed by an investigation by the Grand Master or his

order. In the present case, the Master was suspended, and therefore the investigation required must have taken place. The investigation spoken of in the order of reference to your Committee could not have contemplated the investigation preliminary to suspension, so that they have not considered it to be a part of their duty to investigate matters which the Grand Master has already done. It is not absolutely required that the Grand Master should suspend the Master, but if he does, he must summon him to appear before the Grand Lodge. This is the only way in which jurisdiction can be obtained over the Master. In default of this summons, not a step further can be taken. He should have every opportunity given him to appear and show cause why he should not be dealt with, to object to the charges if he see fit, to request delays and interpose such other objections as he may deem necessary ; in other words, no action can be taken adverse to the accused until he has been summoned to appear. This summons should be issued in compliance with the provisions of the first clause of the first section of Article IV., giving the Master the constitutional time of fourteen days, at least, before the meeting of the Grand Lodge. He should also be served by order of the Grand Master in the same manner with a copy of the charges. The fact that the Master has not been summoned is sufficient reason why your Committee have not taken any step in the matter of investigation.

IV. At the meeting of the Grand Lodge before which the Master is summoned, he should be solemnly called, and if not present, the Grand Lodge will take such action upon his default as it may deem proper. If present, the charges should be read to him, and in the language of the Constitutions, he should be called upon "to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and usages in such cases established," that is, to show cause why he should not be tried according to the regulations and usages provided in the Article IV. above referred to. If he is unable to show such cause to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master should then call upon him to

ges. He may plead specially or generally; i.e., specially that he has not been regularly summoned, the charges has not been served upon him, or that insufficient or informal, or he may plead generally. If he pleads specially, the Grand Lodge upon the sufficiency of his answer. If he pleads generally, then he is to be tried by the Grand Lodge. The above referred to directs minutely the several steps in the trial of an accused brother. The trial before the Grand Lodge of the Master is only a change of the process, as possible, every step should be followed in the trial of the Master before the Grand Lodge. The trial of a Master before the Grand Lodge, by reason of its peculiar membership, are many grave reasons why it should not sit for the purpose of hearing testimony. It would be to separate the brethren together, coming as they do from all parts of the State, and prepared to leave their business for a short time only. Your Committee therefore recommend that the Grand Lodge would be empowered to appoint a committee to take the testimony on one side and the other of the accused should have ample notice of the time and where, the evidence should be given. We recommend to the process of the Grand Lodge, only those who are of the household of the faithful, and if it is found necessary to take the evidence of persons not Masons, in some instance, there would be no way of obtaining it, where the witnesses reside. In this particular case, it is absolutely necessary to take some such means to obtain evidence, most if not all the witnesses on both sides reside at a distance of several hundred miles from the Grand East; so that if it is found necessary, that the witnesses must be produced before

the Grand Lodge, no trial could be had. But your Committee believe that this Committee appointed to take testimony should have no discretionary powers, except to exclude hearsay evidence; that they should take the testimony of the witnesses, subject to such objections as either party might see fit; to make and report it to the Grand Lodge, without any opinion, comment, or recommendation; and upon this evidence the accused should be tried before the Grand Lodge, in accordance with the Constitutions. The Master cannot be tried by his Lodge, and it would seem that he should not be tried by a Committee of the Grand Lodge. They not only should not affect the judgment of the members of the Grand Lodge by any opinion of their own, but they should reserve their own judgments until the accused had been heard, and the evidence discussed, and the complainants had also had opportunity to present their views. The impropriety therefore of the Committee's making any recommendations to the prejudice of either party becomes apparent. It would be unjust to themselves, and prejudicial to a fair investigation of the charges. With this view, your Committee have considered that the Grand Lodge did not intend that they should report "such recommendations as in their judgment may be proper for the final action of the Grand Lodge" concerning the accusations, or the evidence either for or against them, which would bias the fair judgment of the high tribunal before which this W. Master is to be tried.

Br. Albert G. Mackey, in his "Principles of Masonic Law," p. 325, remarks, "In trials conducted by Grand Lodges, it is usual to take the preliminary testimony in a Committee, but the final decision must always be made in the Grand Lodge."

V. After the evidence has been submitted to the Grand Lodge and carefully read, the accused has the privilege of addressing the Grand Lodge by counsel (being of the Craft). The accusers should also have the same right.

The question "is the accused guilty or not guilty" should be distinctly put to the members of the Grand Lodge, in accordance with the Constitutions. If the accused should be found guilty, the

punishment for the offence can then be determined by the Grand Lodge.

In the conduct of the impeachment of the Master of a Lodge by the course recommended, the rights of the accused would be preserved, and the dignity of the Grand Lodge would be preserved, in an affair of such great importance.

It will be observed that the Constitutions use the word "*impeachment*" in this connection, and that it is not elsewhere made use of in connection with any other officer or member of the Grand Lodge. This term was undoubtedly taken from the English practice of impeachment before the Lords by the Commons of Great Britain, "which was a presentment to the most high and supreme court of criminal jurisdiction, by the House of Commons." The W. Master is thus impeached by a certain number of his Lodge, and tried by his peers in the Grand Lodge, which is our "most high" and supreme masonic court. The act itself is a solemn one, when the members of the Grand Lodge, from all parts of the Commonwealth, assemble to sit in judgment upon a brother who has been selected to preside over his brethren, and who, because he has been thus selected and installed into his official station, is a peer in Masonry, and made eligible to the highest positions of confidence which the whole Craft can bestow.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

H. CHICKERING.

The Report was subsequently taken up and considered, when the M.W. Grand Master stated that he had summoned said Dean to appear before the Grand Lodge at its present session, to answer to the charges preferred against him, and called him, if present, to come forward and answer accord-

ingly. He not appearing, the whole subject was referred back to the same committee, with instructions to report the evidence in the case, and the Grand Secretary was directed to notify the defendant of his default, and receive his excuse, if he have any to offer, as provided by the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge.

R.W. Br. George W. Warren, on behalf of the committee of sixteen appointed at the last Communication of the Grand Lodge, offered a Report on the Memorial of King Solomon's Lodge, which was accepted and considered; when, on motion, it was —

Voted, That so much of the Report as relates to the financial condition of the Grand Lodge be printed, and sent to the Lodges, with such explanations and additions as the Grand Master may judge to be necessary for their information.

R.W. Br. William S. Gardner submitted the following Report on the proposed Amendment of Part V. of the Constitutions: —

The Committee to whom was referred the following amendment to Part V., of the Constitutions, "Section 23, no Lodge shall receive or act upon any corporate charter granted by any Legislature or political government; and the receiving such charter of incorporation, or acting themselves by any Lodge under this jurisdiction, will operate as a surrender and revocation of its masonic Charter from this Grand Lodge," respectfully report, —

The supreme authority over the subordinate Lodges, exists exclusively and absolutely in the Grand Lodge. The subordinates derive their existence from the Grand Body, and through it they preserve their vitality. They are answerable to the Grand Lodge alone, and cannot be made answerable to any other tribunal or

s words and doings are always open for the examination of the proper Grand Officers, but to the world they are sealed books. They are not only dependent upon the Grand Lodge but are also exclusive to it. No process of Courts can pass the secrets, or penetrate into the penetralia, or expose to the gaze of the world the secrets. Such are some of the rights and immunities which the Grand Lodge enjoy. Should the Grand Lodge grant charters to these Lodges and should they immediately become subordinate not to the Grand Lodge, but also to the Courts of Law and to the election of their officers, the care and distribution of the funds, the admission, trials, and punishments of their members, liable to be inspected and examined into by the Legislature. Their most private proceedings would be exposed. Like all other incorporated Bodies, over whom the Grand Lodge extended its protecting arm, they cease to be independent and must submit to such exposures of their acts and proceedings as from time to time may be considered necessary. And their proceedings may be revised, their expelled members restored to full fellowship, their elections declared null and void, even the investments and expenditures of their funds may be controlled and directed by a Court of Equity.

of our Grand Lodge in the days of anti-masonic persecution is an example. A charter had been granted in 1834 summoned before it the officers of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of examining them upon the charges. The object in view was no other than a political character. But through the sagacity and influence of our Rt. W. Br. Charles W. Moore, the charges were rendered, and by the Legislature accepted, and the Grand Lodge and its officers became no longer answerable to a Court of Massachusetts.

via the officers and members of their Grand Lodge to be easily. Brethren distinguished for their learn-

ing, Christian character, and eminent virtues, were arraigned before the Legislature as criminals and outcasts.

The M. W. W. S. Whithead, Grand Master of New Jersey, has recently brought this subject before his Grand Lodge, and your Committee take from his able address the following extract :

“By the rules of government of our institution, a brother who feels aggrieved by the action of his Lodge has the right of appeal to the Grand Lodge. If, however, he should be fractious, and indisposed to submit himself to the adjudication of the Grand Lodge, he has the power, if the Lodge be incorporated, to appeal directly to the judicial tribunals. If he has been expelled by his Lodge for a masonic offence justifying such punishment, courts of law have the power, denied by some of the ablest and wisest of masonic writers even to the Grand Lodge itself, to restore the offending brother into full and complete membership in the Lodge from which he has been expelled.

“Let me illustrate this subject by a reference to one or two pertinent adjudications.

“Slander is a masonic crime. None but a Master Mason can realize and appreciate the enormity of the offence of slander of a Mason by his brother Mason. For such violations of masonic duty and solemn obligations, subordinate Lodges claim the right of expelling the unworthy brother, and the Grand Lodge, where the charge was sustained, would not hesitate to confirm the action of its subordinate.

“In the second of Binney's Pennsylvania Reports is found the report of a case, entitled ‘The Commonwealth vs. The President and Members of the St. Patrick's Benevolent Society.’ By the act of incorporation of this society, it was authorized to make rules and by-laws ; and, in pursuance of such authority, it enacted a by-law to the effect that vilifying any of its members was a crime against the society, and that the penalty for such crime should be removal from office, fine, or expulsion. William Duane, a member of the society, presented charges against John Binns, also a member, charging him with falsely and scandalously

ane. Upon these charges Binus was regularly finally expelled. He thereupon appealed to the to be restored to his standing in the society. The ment, by a unanimous decision restored him to on as a member in good standing. The judge the opinion of the court speaks as follows: —

tacit condition annexed to the franchise of a if he breaks, he may be disfranchised. The is inherent power may be exercised are of three

an offence is committed which has no immediate member's corporate duty, but is of so infamous a him unfit for the society of honest men. Such of perjury, forgery, &c. But, before an expulsion a cause of this kind, it is necessary that there ous conviction by a jury, according to the law of

the offence is against his duty as a corporator. d is an offence of a mixed nature against the a corporator, and also *indictable by the laws of*

of 'The Commonwealth vs. The Pennsylvania tion,' reported in 2 Sergeant & Rawle, page 140, was exercised by the court over the membership y the articles of incorporation of that society, s to pay fifty cents as a monthly contribution; member neglect to pay his contribution for three o be expelled. One of the members being in months, his name was stricken from the roll. ealed to the Supreme Court, which decided that ot authorized to strike his name from the roll, ng to their articles of incorporation, they must e society having failed to do this, the court is membership.

cases of incorporated societies, courts of law

have the power to inquire and adjudicate upon the right of a member to an office, the functions of which he may be exercising. Thus, a defeated candidate for the office of W.M. in a subordinate Lodge, instead of appealing to the Grand Lodge, may appeal to the courts of law. If the court should be satisfied that he has been irregularly elected, it has the power to eject him from his office, and place his opponent in the East of the Lodge.

“It is to borne in mind that a judge, when considering questions which may arise in connection with an incorporated Lodge, regards the case from a different standpoint than that from which a Mason views it. The judge knows nothing about the binding force of secret obligations. He does not allow his judgment to be influenced by the fact that the society of Freemasons was instituted for the purpose of fostering virtue, morality, and brotherly love. He neither knows or cares anything about the immutable character of Ancient Landmarks. He sees before him a citizen who has acquired certain rights in an incorporated company, which rights the law is bound to protect. And for the purpose of ascertaining and protecting these rights, he brings to bear upon the case the same rules of law which he would apply in the case of a stockholder in a bank or in an insurance company. It is plain that the application of such rules is subversive of the structure of masonic government. It sweeps away the appellate jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master, and subordinates the masonic to the civil authorities upon questions strictly masonic.”

Your Committee believe that nothing further need be said to show the necessity of the proposed amendment. If the brethren desire to be incorporated to enable them to hold real-estate, they can easily associate together for that purpose, and thus obviate all the objections to which we have referred. But even this will be of rare occurrence, for the funds held by the subordinate Lodges are not usually of such magnitude as to require incorporated companies to take care of them.

Your Committee recommend that the proposed amendment be adopted in the following language : —

No Lodge shall apply for, receive or act under charter granted by any Legislature or political and the receiving such charter of incorporation, or by any Lodge under this jurisdiction, shall tender and revocation of its masonic charter or is Grand Lodge."

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

I. H. WRIGHT.

amend the above section by adding the words "permission of the Grand Master," was then the whole subject was laid over until the next of the Grand Lodge.

utton Lodge," at Saugus, made return of their past year, together with their Dispensation or a Charter, all of which were referred to s Winslow Lewis, Lemuel A. Bishop, and ber, who subsequently offered the following was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 11, 1867.

e to whom was referred the petition of William of Saugus, respectfully report,—
ords of said Lodge, during the period of Dispen-
n neatly kept, and the By-Laws submitted are in
the Constitution of the Grand Lodge ; and they
a Charter be issued to them as prayed for.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

LEMUEL A. BISHOP.

GEORGE H. TABER.

EXPULSIONS.

The committee consisting of R.W. Brothers William D. Coolidge, Henry Chickering, and David W. Crafts, to whom was referred the proceedings of St. Alban's Lodge *vs.* Gardner A. Fuller, submitted the following Report, which was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 11, 1867.

The committee to whom was referred the doings of St. Alban's Lodge, of Foxboro', in relation to the expulsion of Br. Gardner A. Fuller, have attended to that duty, and report,—

That the action of the Lodge is in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, and recommend that the proceedings of the Lodge be confirmed.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

The same committee also submitted the following Report, which was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 11, 1867.

Your committee to whom was referred the paper in the case of expulsion from Masonry of William P. Olds and R. F. Freeman, by Wisdom Lodge, of West Stockbridge, have examined the same, and find the proceedings to have been correct, and recommend that the action of the Lodge be confirmed.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY CHICKERING.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

The Committee on Amendments of the Constitution submitted the following Reports, which were adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the Amendment to Part V., Section 22, of the Constitutions, respectfully report,—

That, whereas every facility should be afforded to the Lodges and their officers to receive the earliest and fullest information of any proposed alteration or amendment of the Constitutions;

Your committee recommend that Part V., Section 22, be so amended as to read after the word "communication":

"And every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, within the territorial limits of Massachusetts, shall be served by the Recording Grand Secretary with an attested copy of such proposed repeal or amendment within thirty days after the meeting at which such repeal or amendment is proposed."

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

HENRY CHICKERING.

SERENO D. NICKERSON.

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, Sept. 11, 1867.

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of the proposed Amendments to the Constitution, Part IV., Article 2, Section 1, on the subject of enlarging the powers of proxies, have given the subject the alteration it demands, and respectfully report, —

That the Grand Lodge, in order that the Lodges might not fail to be represented, have provided in the Constitutions for the appointment of proxies with all the rights of those they represent, including the right to speak and vote in the absence of the representatives of his Lodge.

It has ever been a cherished object of the Grand Lodge to encourage the full representation of Lodges by their officers, by whom, it is presumed, the known wishes and opinion of their brethren are best understood, and it is the opinion of your committee that this duty of being present at the Communications of the Grand Lodge should never be delegated, except in cases of the most pressing emergency, such as absence or sickness of its Master and Wardens.

Provision is ample that every Lodge in the jurisdiction, however remote, may be represented.

Your committee are of opinion that the enlargement of the powers or numbers of proxies would only lead to unintentional debates, and that the interests of the Fraternity will be best promoted when in the hands of those whom the brethren have chosen as their officers.

The opinion of your committee, therefore, is that the Constitutions already give to proxies of Lodges all the power that it is desirable they should have, and that the proposed Amendment giving to proxies of Lodges, while the regular representatives of the Lodge are present, the 'right to speak on all questions in the Grand Lodge during the masonic year in which they are appointed ought not to pass.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

SERENO D. NICKERSON.

HENRY CHICKERING.

GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

R.W. Br. Charles L. Woodbury, in behalf of the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, offered the following supplementary Report on the recognition of the body calling itself the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, which was adopted :

The Committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the M.W. Grand Master, respectfully submit the following supplementary Report : —

The masonic jurisdiction of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, according to the principles of masonic national law, has heretofore pertained to the mother country, of which these two territories are provinces.

In Great Britain there are three Grand Lodges, England, Ireland, and Scotland, separate and independent of each other, and each exercising metropolitan powers over the Colonies pertaining to the empire of Great Britain, granting Charters for the Lodges

and appointing Provincial Grand Masters for the
es, to regulate the Lodges under their several
ording to the Constitutions of the mother Grand
quently, it follows that there may exist in each of
Great Britain three distinct masonic authorities,
ver the Lodges working under its Charters, and
e to the other in any respect. Several practical
ained of as the consequence of this want of unity
ovincial authority; and any one experienced in
udence will perceive that, even where great cau-
ent are used, much trouble may arise, and under
stances constant dissensions and complaint must

ee the mother Grand Lodges have obviated this in
nd New Brunswick, by reposing their provincial
ands of the same person, and thus securing more
uniformity than if there were several Provincial
of the same Rite in the face of each other, in the

tee find that in Nova Scotia, for over twenty-five
orshipful Br. Keith, of Halifax, has exercised the
rol for the Scotch Grand Lodge, and we believe, for
e period, the like powers for the Grand Lodge of
in New Brunswick, we find that the Right Wor-
inch exercises, as Provincial Grand Master, the
Grand Lodges of England and Scotland.

committee, this summer, had the opportunity to
e provinces, and to hold conferences with many of
ed brethren there, as to the condition of the Rite
o of obtaining from the Right Worshipful Provincial
above referred to much valuable information as to
the system under which they live. In the earlier
asonry in these provinces, the influence of these
aratively slight; but as they have grown in wealth
as Masonry has developed and spread with a vig-

orous growth, the embarrassments arising from this mixed jurisdiction are becoming serious. The attention of the masonic mind there is directed to the means of obviating them, and of attaining for the craft the comforts and stability and energy which follow unity of local authority, and the perfect accomplishment of the right of self-government. Several years since, the Masonic Lodges in Canada formed themselves into a Grand Lodge for the two provinces then known as Upper and Lower Canada, and which are now known as Ontario and Quebec. After some discussion and struggle, this Grand Lodge was recognized by the mother Grand Lodges of the British Empire, and by most of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and their independence and jurisdiction as a Grand Lodge over the two above-named provinces was finally established and universally recognized abroad. The precedent was thus established by these mother Grand Lodges of treating those organized colonies of the Empire, which possessed a certain local self-government, as being so far independent States as to justify the existence of a local Grand Lodge when organized under due and lawful authority. In the course of the discussions which followed this effort of these two provinces to set up an independent power, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts came to conclusions as regards the policy which should actuate her conduct in cases of this nature, and subsequent experience has confirmed the correctness of her views, and she has adhered to them as a settled policy ever since. Freemasonry of the Empire of Great Britain differs from other European nationalities in not being organized under a single Grand Lodge, whilst neither of the three Grand Lodges claims to be the Grand Lodge of the Empire; and whilst each acknowledges the sole authority of the other in the territorial division from which it takes its name, as of England, Ireland, and Scotland, yet they all claim the imperial right to grant Charters and exercise jurisdiction in the colonies of the empire, as well as in those foreign countries, destitute of Grand Lodges, which are technically known as missionary ground. This Grand Lodge, and those of other nations,

have not, as far as your committee can learn, been inclined to treat the British Colonies generally as missionary ground, but have rather inclined to consider them as pertaining exclusively to the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland.

The object of masonic independence in a country is to secure unity of organization and self-government, under masonic institutions. Should each of the three imperial Grand Lodges authorize its subordinate bodies in a colony to form a Grand Lodge, there would arise three Grand Lodges, rivals in the same territory, and the unity of Masonry would be as distant as before. In order to form a true Grand Lodge in such a territory, something more than the consent of the mother Grand Lodges is requisite; there must be action on the part of the Provincial Lodges; they must meet and form a union of those holding under different jurisdictions, and agree to become one jurisdiction for the province; and when they have thus organized themselves, presenting to the world the elements of harmony, unity, and self-government, they are in condition to demand of the masonic world recognition as the just and legal sovereign masonic authority for the colony.

The same acts which show to the Grand Lodges from whence they emanated, their capacity and ripeness for union and self-government also address themselves to foreign masonic authorities as a plea for recognition among the masonic powers of the world. When thus united by self-attraction into a geometric and harmonious whole, the reasons which should induce any Grand Lodge to refuse a recognition of the new sister, whose inherent vitality had carried her through the embryonic period into breathing nature and vital independence, must be cogent indeed. The principles which have actuated the Grand Lodges of Great Britain and this Grand Lodge in the past would appear to be satisfied with such a course of proceeding. Your committee will not discuss the question how far the assent of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, and Ireland should precede applications of such a new Grand Lodge for recognition, for probably neither of them could, without their own consent, be forced to abjure the exercise

of their usual powers in such territory ; but your committee are so well assured that these Grand Lodges are governed by high masonic virtues, and are so truly desirous of promoting the harmony and welfare of Freemasonry in every province of that wide-spread empire, that it would be doing violence to reason to doubt that they would act equitably and according to their numerous distinguished precedents.

This Grand Lodge, adhering to its ancient principles, could not, unless for weighty and special causes, forbear to extend the hand of fellowship to a Provincial Grand Lodge, formed on those principles and representing the united and entire body of local Lodges in the country. But while disposed to yield everything to the unanimous desire of the local Provincial Lodges we are now in fellowship with, your committee does not think that the attempt of a portion of the Lodges to secede from the parent authority, and set up a Grand Lodge, comes within the principle we recognize. The essential quality of the unanimity of the lawfully constituted Lodges of the province is wanting, and a recognition of such a body would increase the number of jurisdictions in the province, instead of diminishing them, and, so far from tending to produce harmony and unity, would add another element for discord, and probably fan the flames of personal animosity among the Craft.

Your committee are led to these reflections from the fact that a portion of the Scotch Lodges in Nova Scotia have undertaken to form a Grand Lodge without obtaining the consent of the large majority of the Lodges of that province, and also without the consent of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, or of those of England or Ireland. Your committee are informed that whilst some forty-eight Lodges continue under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Grand Master for England and Scotland, less than eight Lodges seceded and engaged in this effort to make a Grand Lodge. Passing over the question of our power to recognize this new body in the face of our existing amity with the two Provincial Grand Lodges there, it is evident that it could hardly be justified,

of expediency, for us to assume to know better of those local Lodges whether the interests of strength in the province are such as require the endorsement or the erection of an independent Grand Lodge. We may wait, and the minority of the Lodges in Nova Scotia may wait, until the Masonic Fraternity there decide this matter for themselves by a decided and substantially unanimous vote. The matters now are, their opinion seems to be in favor of provincial relations; and this Grand Lodge could not refer itself to the sister Grand Lodges of England and the Freemasons of Nova Scotia, nor to its own constitution, nor could it abet in erecting or forcing on the Craft in Nova Scotia an organization to which they appear averse. Your committee is opposed to those precedents which establish the independence of the several provinces of Great Britain as so far nationalities, and in due time to separate Grand Lodges, and they will wait until the time when the growing strength of Free-masonry in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia shall enable their Fraternities advantageously to assume the right of self-determination. We cannot, in the present state of opinion among the Lodges in Nova Scotia, see the propriety of interfering in their affairs, nor can we consider it expedient to interrupt our relations, and give just cause for complaint. The Fraternity who have formed this so-called Grand Lodge cannot, without the great majority of Lodges who oppose it, reasonably expect aid in clutching the insignia and organization of the Fraternity in masonic power in Nova Scotia, and seating themselves in authority over the opposing majority of Lodges. When we view the situation, we do not see that any foreign Fraternity or masonic power is repressing their liberty and interfering with it rather appears that, having failed to obtain the consent of the Lodges to erect a Grand Lodge, they are now going to seek strength through foreign recognitions, to engage in a struggle with the majority of their co-equals in the Fraternity. It is not our duty to furnish such aid, and your

committee believe that the real progress of independence in Nova Scotia is best promoted by reserving our acknowledgments until a majority at least of the Lodges there shall ask for them; and your committee report that they are satisfied with the action of the Grand Master in declining to recognize the mis-called Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

CHARLES L. WOODBURY.

BENJAMIN DEAN.

A communication was presented from St. John's Lodge, of Boston, in relation to the initiation by the Lodges in New Brunswick of rejected candidates from this city, which was referred to R.W. Brothers William S. Gardner, Charles L. Woodbury, and Benjamin Dean.

R.W. Br. Solon Thornton offered the following order, which was referred to the above committee, to wit:—

“Ordered, That to the form of petition required to be signed by applicants for initiation shall be attached Art. 3, Sect. 2, of the Grand Constitutions of this Grand Lodge.”

The same Brother also offered the following Amendments to the Constitutions, which were referred to the same committee:—

AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 3, SECTION 2.—Any candidate whose application has been rejected, who shall be initiated in any Lodge whatever, without the recommendation aforesaid, shall be deemed a clandestine Mason, and shall not visit any Lodge within this jurisdiction, and the members of Lodges are hereby forbid holding masonic intercourse with such initiates.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 3, SECTION 5.—And any person having his place of residence within this State, who shall be initiated in any Lodge in any other State or Territory, without having first obtained the consent of the Lodge having jurisdiction, shall be deemed a clandestine Mason, and shall not visit any Lodge within this jurisdiction without first being formally healed.

On motion of R.W. Br. Solon Thornton, it was *Voted*, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report a new Burial Service.

The Grand Master appointed Rev. and R.W. Brother E. M. P. Wells, and the Rev. Grand Chaplains, W. Brothers J. W. Dadmun and William R. Alger.

Br. Thomas G. Estes was recognized as proxy for King Philip Lodge.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form at seven o'clock.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

DECEMBER 11, A.L. 5867.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE was held at the New Masonic Temple, in Boston, on Wednesday, December 11, A.L. 5867.

Present.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
W. REV. WILLIAM R. ALGER, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. JOHN W. DADMUN, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. FREDERICK J. FOSS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. H. H. F. WHITEMORE, M.D., }	
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, }	
W. ARTHUR CHENEY, }	
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. L. H. GAMWELL, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE, }	
Br. JOHN B. RHODES	Grand Organist.
Br. C. C. WENTWORTH	Grand Chorister.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R.W. S. O. DEARBORN	District No. 2.
R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM	District No. 3.
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT	District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	District No. 5.

BISHOP	District No. 6.
KIMBALL	District No. 7.
F. CONKEY	District No. 8.
HICKERING	District No. 9.
CRAFTS	District No. 10.
DITT	District No. 11.
SKINNER	District No. 12.
R. GAY	District No. 13.
POPE	District No. 15.
KNELL	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
R. RANDALL	" " "
LEWIS	" " "
D. COOLIDGE	" " "
PARKMAN	" " "
PAIGE	Past Deputy Grand Master.
WELLS	" " " "
GREEN	" " " "
COLMAN	Past Grand Warden.
L. WALES	" " "
EDDING	" " "
NORTH	" " "
W. BAKER	" " "
S. GARDNER	" " "
T. DAVIS	" " "
SUTTON	" " "
HUTCHINSON	" " "
WRIGHT	" " "
WENTON	" " "
MARSHALL	" " "

Lodge was opened in Ample Form at two o'clock, prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Report of the last Communication was read.

Proposals for Charters were presented by Ionic Lodge, Weymouth; Huntington, Huntington; Robert Lash, Chelsea; St. C. Dame, Georgetown; all of which having been read last year under Dispensations, were referred to the Committee. William D. Coolidge, Winslow Lewis, and

William Sutton, who subsequently offered the following Reports, which were adopted :—

IONIC LODGE.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Ionic Lodge, of Taunton, have carefully examined the By-Laws, which are very concise and excellent, and the Report of the doings of the Lodge while under Dispensation. Both evince a knowledge of masonic rules, and we feel convinced that a Charter issued to these brethren will promote their own happiness and the honor of the Craft ; and therefore, with great confidence, recommend that a Charter be issued as prayed for.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

HUNTINGTON LODGE.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Huntington Lodge, of Huntington, have examined their Records while under Dispensation, and the By-Laws under which they propose to organize.

The committee cannot forbear to caution these brethren to unusual care in the selection of those whom they admit ; and although they are remote from those of their more experienced brethren, this is the greater reason for care and prudence in all their relations with the parent institution. The careful guidance of the District Deputy Grand Master, and the assistance of brethren in that section is promised to aid them in their new endeavor. The committee recommend that a Charter be issued to them.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

ROBERT LASH LODGE.

tee to whom was referred the application of Robert Chelsea, have examined the By-Laws and Records Dispensation. They evince a due knowledge of and usage, and may they long continue in full brotherly friendship, and honor yet more the honor bear.

tee recommend that a Charter be issued to them.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

CHARLES C. DAME LODGE.

tee to whom was referred the application of Charles lge, of Georgetown, have examined with much records of their doings during Dispensation. They kept and in accordance with masonic usage. The also approved. Surrounded as they are by friends, honored name, and possessing the true spirit of brotherkindness, happiness to themselves and honor to the l be promoted by granting their petition for a

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WILLIAM SUTTON.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

edings of North Star Lodge, in the case of Br. kman, of Mount Moriah Lodge, *vs.* Br. Henry d of Middlesex Lodge *vs.* Br. John Goodwin, ed and referred to R.W. Brothers Rufus S. an R. Gay, and Henry C. Skinner, who subse- d the following Report, which was adopted : —

WARREN BLACKMAN.

The committee to whom was referred the doings of North Street Lodge, of Ashland, in the trial of Br. Warren Blackman, habitual drunkenness, have attended to that duty and respectfully report, —

That they find the report of their doings deficient, and therefore recommend their proceedings be referred back to them for a further report.

R. S. POPE.

JONATHAN R. GAY.

HENRY C. SKINNER.

HENRY N. CARTER.

The committee to whom was referred the action of Moriah Lodge, Westfield, in the case of Henry N. Carter, have examined a certified copy of the proceedings, and find them correct, the charges fully sustained, and recommend that the doings of the Lodge be confirmed by this Grand Lodge.

R. S. POPE.

JONATHAN R. GAY.

HENRY C. SKINNER.

JOHN GOODWIN.

Your committee to whom was referred the action of Middlesex Lodge, Framingham, have attended to their duty, and beg leave to report that they find the proceedings in the case of Br. John Goodwin correct, the charges amply sustained, and recommend that the action of the Lodge in the premises be confirmed by this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. S. POPE.

JONATHAN R. GAY.

HENRY C. SKINNER.

in Gorham was recognized as proxy for Mount and Br. T. H. Shepherdson for Excelsior. W. S. Danforth for Plymouth Lodge.

E. M. P. Wells submitted a Report from the appointed to prepare a new form of Burial Services read and ordered to be printed with the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, for the consideration of the

fixed by the Constitutions for the election of. Having arrived, the Grand Master ordered a return from which it appeared that the whole number might legally be cast was four hundred and. The Grand Master then resigned his chair to R. W. Master William D. Coolidge, who appointed William S. Gardner, W. Br. Charles H. Titus, and William W. Baker a committee to collect the dues of the Grand Master. This committee having attended to their appointment, reported the whole number of members to be three hundred and ninety-three, of which three hundred and sixty were for M. W. Br. Charles C. Dame for the ensuing year. The Grand Master then formally introduced, signified his acceptance of the same and resumed the chair. The elections then resulted in the following results : —

F. SALMON, Lowell	Senior Grand Warden.
W. TABER, Fairhaven	Junior Grand Warden.
W. LLELLAN, Boston	Grand Treasurer.
W. DORTON, Boston	Recording Grand Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SUTTON, R. W. SERENO D. NICKERSON, BR. PERCIVAL L. R. W. JOHN T. HEARD, R. W. WINSLOW LEWIS.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

R.W. SERENO D. NICKERSON, R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER, R.W. WILLIAM
D. COOLIDGE.

The Grand Lodge then resumed its regular business, where the Committee on Amendments of the Constitutions submitted the following Report, which was adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the petition from St. John's Lodge, and certain proposed Amendments to the Constitutions, respectfully report, —

That they are in possession of information that the Lodges in New Brunswick have united for the purpose of forming a regular Grand Lodge in that province, and that a request for recognition has already been forwarded to the Grand Lodge of England. If a Grand Lodge should be regularly formed, as your committee hope will be the result of pending negotiations, the matter of complaint set forth in the petition referred to your committee will be at rest, they believe, forever. In view of this anticipated pleasant conclusion, and at the request of the petitioners, your committee would report that St. John's Lodge have leave to withdraw.

Without burdening this Report with arguments which your committee believe had better be stated to the Grand Lodge, they recommend that Section 5, Article 3, Part IV., should not be amended as proposed. They also recommend that Part I, Article 3, of the Constitutions, be amended by adding to Section 2 the following words: "Any candidate residing within this State whose application has been rejected, who shall be initiated in any other Lodge, without the recommendation of the said, shall be deemed a clandestine Mason, and shall not be allowed to visit any Lodge within this jurisdiction, and the Council is hereby forbidden to hold masonic intercourse with him."

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER
CHARLES L. WOODBURY

INCORPORATING LODGES.

the committee on the subject of the incorporation laid upon the table at the last Quarterly Com- s taken up, and the recommendation of the adopted, amending Section 5, Part V. of the s recorded in the Proceedings of the last

nry Chickering, in behalf of the committee to red the suspension of Br. R. B. Dean, W. shire Lodge, submitted a full report of the he case, which having been read, it was ed that said Dean is guilty of the unma- th which he stands charged by his Lodge.

nt was then, by a unanimous vote, expelled ts and privileges of Freemasonry.

tion from King Solomon's Lodge, complain- ion by Carroll Lodge, at Freedom, N.H., of y within the jurisdiction of King Solomon's rred to W. Br. C. Prescott Goss, R.W. Br. hall, and W. Br. J. A. Stearns.

Committee of Charity submitted the following as adopted : —

Committee of Charity of the Grand Lodge re-

received the past year, by vote of the Grand Grand Treasurer, the sum of two hundred dol- a balance of \$5.44 on hand at last report, have charity.

CHARLES W. MOORE.

no further business, the Grand Lodge was Form at six o'clock.

STATED COMMUNICATION.

DECEMBER 27, A.L. 5867.

A STATED COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND L
OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at New Masonic Te
Boston, on Friday, December 27, A.L. 5867, for th
stallation of its Officers.

Present.

R.W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Recording Grand Secreta
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Corresponding Grand Sec
W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. EDWARD STEARNS,	} Grand Stewards.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS,	
W. ARTHUR CHENEY,	
W. IVORY H. POPE	Grand Lecturer.
Br. JOHN B. RHODES	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District
R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM	District
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT	District
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	District
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District
R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL	District
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	District
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District
R.W. GEORGE H. TABER	District
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	District

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

EWIS	Past Grand Master.
COOLIDGE	" " "
TRAIN	Past Deputy Grand Master.
WILDER	" " " "
WICKERSON	" " " "
BAKER	Past Grand Warden.
GARDNER	" " "
TTON	" " "
NTON	" " "

Lodge was opened in Due Form at seven
prayer by the Grand Chaplain, W. John W.

Deputy Grand Master announced that the
Communication was the Installation of the
Grand Lodge, and appointed R.W. Brothers
s, Marshall P. Wilder, William S. Gardner,
n, and Charles R. Train to introduce M.W.
DAME, Grand Master elect, for Installation.
Deputy Grand Master resigned the Chair to Past
Coolidge. The Grand Master elect was then
installed into his office, and saluted by the
e and Ancient Form.

Grand Master installed the elected Officers as

SALMON, Lowell	Senior Grand Warden.
TABER, Fairhaven	Junior Grand Warden.
ELLAN, Boston	Grand Treasurer.
NTON, Boston	Recording Grand Secretary.

Grand Master then made the following ap-

MOORE, Boston	Deputy Grand Master.
WOODBURY, Boston	Cor. Grand Secretary.

W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN, Boston,	}	. . . . .	Grand Chaplains.
W. Rev. JOHN P. ROBINSON, Boston,			
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON, Melrose			Grand Marshal.
W. ARTHUR CHENEY, Boston			Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. WARREN FISHER, Jr., Boston			Senior Grand Deacon.
W. BENJAMIN LEWIS, Worcester			Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, Boston,	}	. . . . .	Grand Stewards.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, Lowell,			
W. JOSIAH A. STEARNS, Boston,			
W. E. W. BURR, Hingham,			
W. MOSES H. FOWLER, Newburyport			Grand Standard Bearer.
W. CHARLES J. F. SHERMAN, Boston,	}	. . . . .	Grand Pursuivants.
W. WILLIAM WRIGHT, Cambridge,			
W. E. D. BANCROFT, South Groton,	}	. . . . .	Grand Lecturers.
W. L. H. GAMWELL, Pittsfield,			
W. IVORY H. POPE, Boston,			
Br. HOWARD M. DOW, Boston			Grand Organist.
Br. C. C. WENTWORTH, Boston			Grand Chorister.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston			Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX, Boston	District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P. CHEEVER, Chelsea	District No. 2.
R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, Auburndale	District No. 3.
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT, Cambridgeport	District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PETERSON, Salem	District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, Lawrence	District No. 6.
R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL, Lowell	District No. 7.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY, Amherst	District No. 8.
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING, Pittsfield	District No. 9.
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, Northampton	District No. 10.
R.W. A. A. BURDITT, Clinton	District No. 11.
R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER, Milford	District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT, Canton	District No. 13.
R.W. ROBERT C. BROWN, Fall River	District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr., Dennis Port	District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL, Weymouth	District No. 16.
R.W. GEORGE H. KENDALL, Deputy for Chili, S.A.	
R.W. J. B. EAMES, Special Deputy for China.	
R.W. RICHARD H. HARTLEY, Lima, Special Deputy for Peru.	

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY:

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE, R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

COMMITTEE ON CHARITY:

CHARLES W. MOORE, W. MARLBOROUGH WILLIAMS, R.W. E. M.
P. WELLS.

The M.W. Grand Master installed the R.W. Deputy Grand Master and the District Deputy Grand Masters; and the Deputy Grand Master installed the remainder of the elected Officers; and the Grand Marshall made the customary proclamation.

The Grand Master delivered his —

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

We have again come together in obedience to the provisions of our own Constitutions, and in adherence to a time-consecrated tradition of our ancient brethren. Grand Lodges, in the sense in which the words are now understood, are of comparatively modern institution. They derive the idea of their existence, and are legitimate successors (though differing widely in their organization), of that class of Masonic Bodies known in early times by our English Brethren, as "General Assemblies;" the existence of which, if we may credit our own traditional history, and the evidence of such testimony as has come down to us bearing the marks of authenticity, was held, in the beginning of the last century, under a "free charter," purchased of the crown, giving the brethren of that day, for the first time, with the spirit of self-government, or, in the words of the instrument "with a power and freedom to regulate themselves, and to provide for what might happen to be amiss." It was at this assembly, on the 27th of December in the year 1726, that those old customs and quaint regulations, which we are taught to revere as the basis of our system, in spirit at least, those essential, ethical, and judicial principles, which constitute the "unalterable laws of Masonry," were first collated and subsequently adopted as the basis of our system of Ancient Constitutions."

The logical, and indeed the only inference to be drawn from the terms of the "free charter" purchased of King Athalstan, is, that anterior to that purchase, the government of the Fraternity, in England at least, was wholly and exclusively vested in the crown. The brethren possessed no "freedom to regulate themselves," and no power to "amend what might happen amiss." The king was not only their Grand Master, but they were as much under his control and dictatorship, as their ancestors were to the power of Cæsar, in the earlier days of the history of their island. Nor was England an exception in this respect. We are told by high authority, that at a much later date, Freemasonry received the special sanction and patronage of the kings of Scotland, "who," says our author, "appear to have exercised from a *very early period*, the privilege of nominating the office-bearers of the Fraternity, and occasionally of presiding over them in person." From this it would seem that the brethren had no voice at all in the selection of their officers, — that all, from the highest to the lowest, were at the disposal of the king. And, regarding him as their Grand Master, the practice was in exact agreement with that which prevails in the Grand Lodge of England at the present day, where the Grand Master alone is chosen by the brethren, he appointing the remaining officers, with a single exception. This is true also of the subordinate Lodges, the Masters of which appoint their Wardens and other office-bearers, with the exception already intimated. The Scottish rule was so far modified in the time of James I. (1406), as that the brethren were allowed to choose their own Grand Master, subject to the approval of the crown. It was made a condition, however, that he should be "nobly born, or a clergyman of high rank and character." When so chosen, he was vested with powers equal to those exercised by his royal predecessors; and, in the words of the record, it was made his duty "to adjust any and all difficulties that might arise between the members of the Craft, and to regulate all such affairs, connected with the Fraternity, as it might be improper to bring under the cognizance of the Courts of Law." As Grand Master,

was supreme and autocratic. There was no denying his authority, and no appeal from his decision. He might say, as Louis XIV. said of the State, and with perhaps greater truth, "I am the Grand Lodge."

In the following reign of James II., another change in the organization of the Fraternity in Scotland took place, and the Grand Mastership was confirmed by the crown to William St. Clair, Earl of Orkney and Caithness, and Baron of Roslin, in whose heirs and successors the office finally became hereditary. On this condition it continued until 1736, when the privilege of electing their Grand Master was vested in the brethren at large, and on the resignation of Sir William St. Clair, "the last Roslin," "every title to that office which he then possessed, or which his successors might claim, either under the grants of the Scottish Kings, or from the kindness of the Fraternity." This gave freedom and independence to the Order in Scotland; and on the 30th November following, being St. Andrew's day, the present Grand Lodge was organized as a supreme and independent Masonic power, with Sir William St. Clair as its Grand Master by election.

In England, the Fraternity continued under the precarious and uncertain government of the "General Assemblies," — which appear to have been a kind of "mass meeting," or general "gathering of the clans," — until the year 1717, when the present Grand Lodge was organized, and the Fraternity, not only in England, but throughout the world, were brought under the control of more definite laws, and systematic government.

Such, very briefly, was the origin of that class of masonic organizations, legislative, judicial, and executive, known as Grand Lodges. At their head, first in years and first in our love, stands our venerable mother, the Grand Lodge of England. She has continued without intermission for one hundred and fifty years, to hold her quarterly and annual sessions; and it is in obedience to her example, and to her injunction, that we, brethren, have come up to-night from the various pursuits of life,

that we may here, around the altar of our common hopes, our fraternal ties and sympathies, present our offering of gratitude to Him whom we acknowledge to be the source of our dearest mercies and distinguished privileges; to thank Him for his gracious protection through more than four generations of men, and for the abundant blessings with which he has crowned our labors, and established our prosperity.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR.

The duties of your Grand Master for the past year, have been more than usually laborious, and more than ordinarily diversified and responsible, demanding not only his best energies, but his constant care and personal attention. Many of them are of such a character that any more particular reference to them might be out of place in an address of this kind. I shall, therefore, trouble you no further with details than may be necessary for your information, in relation to those business matters which more properly appertain to my official position.

Jan. 2. Constituted Adams Lodge at Wellfleet, and installed its officers. The installation was public, and an address was delivered by the W. Grand Chaplain.

Jan. 8. Visited Columbian Lodge, Boston, and installed its officers.

Jan. 8. Granted a Dispensation to Br. James Utley, and twenty-seven others, for a new Lodge at Taunton, by the name of Ionic Lodge.

Jan. 9. Constituted Alfred Baylies Lodge at Taunton, and installed its officers.

Jan. 10. Granted a Dispensation to Br. Eben W. Lothrop and twenty-five others, for a new Lodge at Chelsea, by the name of Robert Lash Lodge.

Jan. 14. Dedicated a New Masonic Hall at Rockport.

Feb. 15. Visited Kilwinning Lodge, u.d., at Lowell.

Granted a Dispensation to Br. Stephen Osgood and thirty-seven others, for a new Lodge at Georgetown, by the name of Charles C. Dame Lodge.

March 18. Constituted Excelsior Lodge at Franklin, and installed its officers.

March 26. Constituted Kilwinning Lodge at Lowell, and installed its officers.

Granted a Dispensation to Br. George Bartlett and thirty-one others, for a new Lodge at Lowell, by the name of William North Lodge.

- ed a Dispensation to Br. George B. Cogswell and twenty-eight
 for a new Lodge at North Easton, by the name of Paul Dean Lodge.
15. Granted a Dispensation to Br. John W. Dadmun and thirty-
 rs, for a new Lodge at Boston, by the name of Zetland Lodge.
23. Granted a Dispensation to Br. Ambrose Webster and seventeen
 for a new Lodge at Waltham, by the name of Isaac Parker Lodge.
24. Dedicated a new and elegant Masonic Hall at Melrose.
18. Constituted Eliot Lodge at West Roxbury, and installed its
8. Constituted Oriental Lodge at Edgartown, and installed its
 also dedicated their New Masonic Hall.
16. Constituted Siloam Lodge at Westboro', and installed its
 also dedicated their New Masonic Hall.
8. Laid, with masonic ceremonies, the corner-stope of a New
 Building at Beverly.
23. Granted a Dispensation to Br. George S. Clarke and seventeen
 for a new Lodge at East Hampton, by the name of Ionic Lodge.
6. Granted a Dispensation to Br. Lyman B. Collins, and fifteen
 for a new Lodge at Southboro', by the name of St. Bernard Lodge.
12. Granted a Dispensation to Br. George H. Folger and twenty-
 s, for a new Lodge at Cambridge, by the name of Mizpah Lodge.
30. Visited Charles C. Dame Lodge, u.d., at Georgetown.
1. Constituted William Sutton Lodge at Saugus, and installed its
 also dedicated their New Masonic Hall.
3. Installed the officers of Revere Lodge, Boston.
16. Visited Jordan Lodge at South Danvers, and installed its
18. Constituted Ionic Lodge at Taunton, and installed its officers.
19. Visited The Lodge of Eleusis at Boston, and installed its
21. Constituted Huntington Lodge at Huntington, and installed
 s.
23. Constituted Robert Lash Lodge at Chelsea, and installed its
26. Constituted Charles C. Dame Lodge at Georgetown, and in-
 s officers; also dedicated their New Masonic Hall.
- ddition to the above, and as constituting one of the most
 ent and interesting events of the year is the

DEDICATION OF THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE.

, as you are all aware, took place appropriately on the 24th
 e, the anniversary of St. John the Baptist. In numbers
 eantry, the occasion was probably never equalled by any

masonic exhibition in the world. The business of the city was generally suspended, and our citizens all seemed to unite in doing honor to the day and the Craft. The Grand Lodge is under special obligations to his honor the Mayor, and the City Government, for their ready and efficient services in contributing to the success and dignity of the occasion. The Grand Lodge was honored by the attendance of the President of the United States, several members of his Cabinet, the representatives of the neighboring Grand Lodges, and by more than twelve thousand brethren, all of whom, formed in procession, marched through the principal streets of our city, presenting a display of strength and of character without a parallel in the history of the Order.

THE TEMPLE AND ITS COST.

The singular architectural proprieties of the building, its elaborate finish, and the beauty of its embellishments, elicited the universal admiration and praise of the vast multitudes which the occasion had called together to witness the ceremony of its dedication. And, I may add, that the unanimous testimony of gentlemen of taste and culture now is, that it is one of the most beautiful and classical specimens of architectural skill in the country. At least thirty thousand persons have visited it since it was first thrown open to public inspection; and it is not known to me that any other individual-judgment has been passed upon it, either in its details, or as a whole, than that of unqualified approbation. It is an honor to the Masonic Fraternity of Massachusetts and an ornament to our city.

The Auditing Committee, at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, made a full and detailed statement, by which it appears that the whole cost of the Temple, including interest and insurance, is \$418,532.03, and the cost of the furniture, including the organ, is \$35,000, making a total cost of \$453,532.03. The whole liabilities of the Grand Lodge are \$473,241.02. The amount in the sinking fund for the payment of the debt is \$24,997, which, together with \$42,000 in bonds on hand unsold,

,530.73, in cash on hand, makes \$73,527.73, to be applied in liquidation. This leaves the net liabilities \$399,713.29. There has been received for admission to the Temple, \$6,503.35. The amount received from the D.D.G. Masters, is \$37,278. It is not uncommon in undertakings of such magnitude, the cost of the building has been largely in excess of the original estimates. It was supposed that it could be put up and finished for not exceeding \$250,000; and had the original plan been adhered to, the actual cost would probably have not much exceeded that amount. Other counsels, however, prevailed; the cost of the building were raised, its internal structure was changed, a much larger portion than was originally intended, was put up to masonic purposes, and its cost correspondingly increased. I do not presume to say that this was not all wisely done, but simply refer to it as the cause of the extraordinary financial obligations under which we are now laboring, and which have given rise to the necessity of a

CAPITATION TAX.

On this occasion here to say, that a great deal of unprofitable unauthorized discussion has been indulged in with reference to the capitation tax, the effect of which has been to prejudice the peace, the harmony, and the business-credit of the Grand Lodge. The tax was fairly, masonically, and lawfully laid. It was the unanimous act of the Grand Lodge, at a regular and legal meeting. The Grand Lodge and the whole Fraternity were bound by it. I have not any preference of mine, nor was it, so far as I know, the voice of the Board of Directors. It was the result of the deliberations of a wise and intelligent Committee. It was intended to protect the interests of the Grand Lodge, and to uphold the pledged faith and honor of the whole Fraternity,—of the Grand Lodge, and every individual member of a Lodge, in this Commonwealth. Necessity demanded it, the Grand Lodge ordered it, and the result has demonstrated its wisdom.

It was not an extraordinary measure ; on the contrary, it was in accordance with a practice as ancient, and almost as common as Grand Lodges themselves. With some few exceptions, every Grand Lodge in this country assesses and demands the payment of a capitation tax, by every member on the rolls of the Lodges under its jurisdiction. And it has been a problem which our sister Grand Lodges have failed to solve, that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has been able, for almost a century and a half, to maintain itself without such a tax. Strict economy, amounting almost to penuriousness, gives the answer.

I have been asked how the tax is to be collected of recusant brethren or Lodges, should there unfortunately be found any of either description within the jurisdiction so forgetful of their allegiance and duty as to withhold its payment. For the information of such, and as the rule of my own conduct in such cases, should any arise, I answer, —

First, In relation to Lodges :

As the Grand Lodge has “ordered and decreed” “that the sum of one dollar, as Grand Lodge dues, shall be paid on the first day of September, annually, for the term of thirteen years, by every affiliated Mason under our jurisdiction,” and that “said sum *shall be collected by the Lodges* of their members, and paid to the District Deputy Grand Masters at their annual visits,” it becomes the duty of each Lodge to return, annually, to the Grand Lodge one dollar for each and every member borne upon its rolls, on the first day of September of each year.

If any Lodge wilfully refuses to do this, it will become my duty, while occupying my present position, to enforce obedience to the order, and, under the Constitution, to submit my doings to the Grand Lodge, at the proper time.

Second, In relation to individuals who may decline to pay the one dollar annually :

The collection of this tax is a matter wholly between the Lodges and their members. The Grand Lodge will hold each Lodge to account to it for the whole number of its members,

ly, unless satisfactory reasons are shown to the contrary ;
any member who refuses to meet the requirements of his
in relation to this tax, should be immediately reported
Grand Lodge for discipline.

am happy to say that all the Lodges under our jurisdiction,
to, have made their returns, and that there are but a few
individual members who have not met this tax, and those indi-
s will receive such special attentions as the circumstances
d. The two Lodges referred to are Evening Star Lodge,
e, and Cincinnatus Lodge, at Great Barrington, both in
ninth Masonic District. These two Lodges will receive
rly attention and action. Several Lodges have commuted
tax for the whole time, by paying ten dollars for each of
members, and many individual members of other Lodges
done the same.

Before leaving this subject, I desire to recur to the suggestion
made by me in my last Annual Address, " that each initiate,
after, be required to pay directly to the Grand Lodge, through
treasurer of the Lodge in which he is initiated, the sum
of ten dollars, to be applied to the payment of the debt of the
Lodge, or added to the sinking fund for that purpose."
This would not interfere with the funds of the Lodge, nor sub-
ject them to any other inconvenience than that of collecting and
regularly paying over the sum so received. Nor do I believe
it would deprive any Lodge of a single desirable candi-
date. If, however, it should in any case do so, even then, in my
opinion, the Lodge would be the gainer thereby. It cannot,
therefore, be regarded as an unreasonable requirement, that those
who are coming into the joint possession and benefits of this
common property, should contribute so small a sum in liquidation
of present embarrassments. The debt on the building must be
paid, and the sooner this is done, the sooner will the Lodges
be able to realize the income and benefits arising from it, either
in discharge of their annual payments to the Grand Lodge,
or in the acquisition of increased means to meet their charitable

disbursements. I submit the matter to the serious consideration of the Lodges, to be disposed of as their wisdom may direct.

UNAUTHORIZED PUBLICATIONS.

I have noticed, during the past year, in the secular papers, and other publications of the city, unauthorized statements, and frequently scandalous reflections on the proceedings of this Grand Lodge and its officers; and I have reason to believe that the reputation and business credit of this Body have been materially affected and embarrassed in the community by them. I have, heretofore, refrained from taking official notice of them, in the hope that an awakened sense of duty and obligation on the part of the authors, who are Masons, would correct the evil. Should it, however, unfortunately continue, I shall feel it to be my duty to interpose such authority as I may possess.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

I have great pleasure in announcing that our beloved Order in other countries, as at home, continues to maintain the high and commanding position to which its principles and influence entitle it, and that our relations with all foreign Grand Orientes are of the most amicable and fraternal kind.

GRAND LODGE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

I am not aware that any change has taken place since our last Annual Communication, in the condition of the so-called Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, or that the Grand Lodge of Scotland, to which the recusant Lodges comprising it owe allegiance, has taken any other action on the subject than to decree the suspension of their members from the privileges of Masonry. Difficulties of this kind are always to be regretted, for the necessary consequence of them is not only to disturb the peace of the brethren, but to lower the respect in which it is desirable

order should everywhere be held by those who have no other of judging of its character than by its acts.

PROPOSED GRAND LODGE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

earn that measures have been recently instituted by the s in New Brunswick, looking to the establishment of an ndent Grand Lodge in that province; and that negotiations y that end in view, are now pending before the Grand s of England and Scotland. This I regard as a step in the direction, both legitimate and lawful, and I cannot doubt e wishes of the petitioners will be favorably entertained parent Bodies. It is also to be hoped that it may tend ten an adjustment of the existing differences in the neigh- y province.

GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.

ly in the Spring, I commissioned our beloved Br. Marshall ilder, to represent this Grand Lodge in the Universal ic Convention to be held at Paris, on the invitation of the t Orient of France, in the following June. Our brother, on rival in Paris, presented his credentials to the Illustrious illinet, the Grand Master of the Grand Orient, and met with ial and fraternal reception, and subsequently received those ions which his own personal worth and official character him a right to expect. Having returned, I understand that ll, this evening, lay before you a report of the interesting ences in which he participated, as your representative, abroad.

GRAND ORIENT OF PERU.

ave recently received through the distinguished Grand Mas- the Grand Orient of Peru, official notice that our Special y for the Peruvian Republic, has been duly recognized and wledged by that Grand Orient, and I have the honor here- o submit the correspondence.

[TRANSLATION.]

GRAND ORIENT OF PERU, LIMA, .
CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF PERU,
15 August, 1866.

To His Most Serene, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Very Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of the Free and Accepted Masons of Massachusetts, U. S. A. From the Most Serene Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Peru.

ILLUSTRIOUS AND DEAREST BROTHER,—This day, in the Grand Orient of this Republic, was read the communication which you directed to us, advising us that it had pleased you to name our dear Br. Richard H. Hartley, Special Deputy from your Grand Lodge to this Republic. After having completed the requisites of the exequator (authority), this brother was recognized in the charge (capacity) which you had conferred upon him, and introduced and saluted with all the honors which are his due.

Given by us, signed and sealed with the seal of the Grand Orient, on the day mentioned above.

[Signed]

J. J. MARIATEGUI, 38°, Grand Master.

Mo. SOLI, Grand Secretary.

It may be proper to say, for the information of members of the Grand Lodge who are not acquainted with the laws that govern the different rites of Masonry in foreign countries, that this appointment of a Deputy, where there was already a Grand Lodge of a different Rite established, is authorized by the fundamental law of the Scottish Rite, as officially promulgated by the high powers of that Rite at Paris, in 1834, in the following words:—

“Each masonic power, regularly and legally constituted, duly acknowledged and invested with the full dogmatic powers of a Rite for a particular territory, possesses incontestably and solely the right of founding and governing the Lodges of its Rite throughout the whole extent of its dominion. But this Rite can never give to this power that of excluding, of forbidding, or of hindering the masonic power of another Rite, even that of a foreign Orient in power, to grant the necessary charters for the regular establishment of Lodges and Chapters, or even of a power of the Rite in the extent of the same territory, to such Masons as may solicit them in a regular manner.”

It is hardly necessary to add, in this connection, that our Special Deputy for Peru was not charged with any power to

establish Lodges, as in the case of Deputies of the Scottish Rite, to look after the interests of this Grand Lodge, and its subordinates, as they at present exist in that republic. Our Deputy Valparaiso occupies the same general relation to the Order of the Republic of Chili, and is invested with corresponding powers.

In China, where we also have a flourishing Lodge, the case is somewhat different, inasmuch as there are no native Grand or subordinate Lodges in the empire. The field is, therefore, free of any competent masonic power that may see fit to occupy it, without reference to the question of Rites.

OUR OWN JURISDICTION.

I state, for the information of the Grand Lodge, and as evidence of the increasing prosperity of our Order throughout the Commonwealth, that we now have under our jurisdiction 164 Chartered Lodges and seven working under Dispensation.

During the past year there have been 2,506 initiates, being an increase of 195 over the number of the preceding year. On the 1st of September last, the total number of members was 17,160, being an increase of 1,040 over the returns of last year.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION.

I had intended to call your attention at some length to two or three subjects, more immediately affecting the business relations and government of the Grand Lodge, but other engagements have prevented. I cannot, however, allow the opportunity to pass by without suggesting for your consideration whether some change might not be advantageously made in the prerequisite qualifications of candidates for office in Grand Lodge. I am at a loss to understand how the experience of a presiding Master of a Lodge can be made available in the performance of the duties of several of the officers of whom such a qualification is now required by the Constitutions. The ablest and most intelligent brethren are not always the most accomplished

ritualists; nor are they always selected for Masters and Wardens of Lodges. The Grand Lodge needs their services, and the influence of their social position.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

I beg, also, to submit whether some change might not profitably made in the term of office for which the Board of Directors are chosen. Under the present rule they are elected annually, and are therefore liable to be removed annually. The entire Board may be changed at any annual election, and the whole management of the property of the Grand Lodge thrown into new and inexperienced hands. The risk is too great, and may be lessened by a classification of the members of the Board into three grades, one grade to pass out, and another to enter upon the duties for the long term. It may be thought expedient also, to repeal that provision of the Constitutions which requires the election to members of the Grand Lodge. The matter is in your hands.

CONCLUSION.

And now, brethren, we close up the business of the past year, and enter upon the duties of a new year. The cares and responsibilities before us are many; but with united energies, and the blessing of God, they will be successfully met and overcome.

On motion of R.W. Br. Charles Levi Woodbury the Address was referred to R.W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, William S. Gardner, Charles W. Moore, Winslow Lewis, and Benjamin Dean.

R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis offered the following resolution which was adopted unanimously:—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, for his long, faithful

energetic, and valuable services as Grand Secretary to this Body. In the days of its depression he was a tower of strength in its support. As a Trustee of the Masonic Temple, he, more than any other, was the means of effecting its sale, and by this laid the foundation of this fabric in which we are now gathered in prosperity. His record of the devotion of thirty-five years needs no better eulogium, and we trust that he will long be continued to us, to give us the great influence of his masonic intelligence and capacity."

R.W. Br. Marshall P. Wilder made a very interesting statement of his visit to the World's Convention of Masons, held under the auspices of the Grand Orient of France, during the World's Fair; and, on motion of R.W. Br. William Gardner, Br. Wilder was requested to prepare a written statement, to be printed with the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

by the Most Worshipful Grand Master CHARLES C. DAME, of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

In accordance with the request of the Grand Lodge I have the honor to report, that —

"On my arrival in Paris I presented my credentials as the delegate of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to the World's convocation of Freemasons, summoned by our illustrious brother, General Mellinet, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France, also Commander of the National Guard of France. I was most cordially received, and furnished with a card of invitation to attend the Great Festival of the Brotherhood, to take place on the 15th of June, 1867. . . .

"To add to the importance of our Delegation, I associated with me our brethren from the United States, especially those

from Massachusetts, among whom may be named brothers mings, Usher, White, Guild, and Hills, of Boston. Nor I omit to mention the presence of our aged worthy brother late James Herring, of New York, whose person had been confided to my care, and from whence he soon after to leave of Freemasonry on earth to join the Grand Lodge ab

"The *Fete* was one of the most interesting, imposing grand ever witnessed within the circle of the masonic Fourteen nations were represented by about seven hundred fifty brethren of the mystic tie.

"The services in the Great Hall, the address of the Master, the oration, and other performances, were intrusted and executed by gentlemen of distinguished ability.

"The Grand Banquet was produced with all the elegant *recherche* peculiar to French artists and caterers, each guest furnished with a splendid bouquet of moss roses.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Master Mellinet presided with great ease and dignity, to whom your representative is indebted for special courtesies, and to M. Thevenot, Grand Secretary of the Committee of Arrangements, for many other acts of politeness. Here, then, we were assembled in the Banqueting Hall of the Grand Orient of France—*here* in the most elegant and beautiful city of the world, alike renowned for art, science, and trade—*here* where the people and the products of every climate were assembled to hold a grand festival in honor of the genius, industry, and progress of the age—and *here* to unite the world in prayer for the relief of toil, the reward of labor, and the multiplication of the blessings and comforts of mankind.

"It was a most appropriate occasion for a meeting of the Masonic Brotherhood from all parts; and, although different languages, customs, and manners, all were inspired with the same feeling, that whatever the dialect, color, or personal peculiarities, we were truly brethren of the great masonic family of the world.

"Nor was language necessary to express the sentiments of the heart. The friendly grip, the affectionate embrace, the

spoke more loudly than words the emotions swelling in the minds of brethren never again to kneel around the altar of Freemasonry on earth.

The speech of welcome to the Fraternity was cordial and appropriate. In response, your representative alluded to the prosperous condition of Masonry in the United States, the respect obtained by his countrymen for their brethren in other lands, and closed with the following sentiment:—

The Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. United by the sacred ties of masonic obligations—ought nearer by the wonderful achievements of science—may the bond of living sympathy and friendship bind us still closer together in one great circle of life and love.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master reciprocated these sentiments with the desire that the friendly relations existing between our institutions might be perpetuated forever.

One other occasion deserves notice in connection with this report.

On the 24th of June a Grand *Fete* of the Order was held by the Supreme Grand Council of the Thirty-third and last Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for France. This was held in Paris, and was attended by a large concourse of brethren. The services in the Lodge were impressive, the Grand Commander being no less a personage than our Illustrious Brother Comte de Montalivet, of the French Senate, and now in the ninety-fourth year of his age. The Banquet, as on the former occasion, was arranged and provided for with taste and elegance; but what added much to its interest was the hall in which it was held, for it was there that our Br. Benjamin Franklin presented his grandson to the Grand Master, whose benediction upon the child was pronounced in the memorable words: 'God and Liberty.' Your delegate, acting as a guest, was called on to respond for the United States. In the performance of this duty he alluded to a pleasing coincidence, that while we were enjoying the hospitalities of that hour in Paris, a thousand of our brethren were passing in Grand Procession

in the streets of Boston, in honor of Freemasonry and the erection of a new Masonic Temple, erected at an expense of half a million of dollars, and which it was believed was elegant and appropriate than any similar institution in the world. Your representative, after thanking M. Lajonquiere, Grand Secretary, for kind attentions, concluded by proposing the following toast:—

"The Institutions of Freemasonry throughout the Universe. One in affection — one in obligation — one in destiny. May we go on prospering and to prosper, rising higher and higher in the scale of human excellence, grandeur, and glory, and rejoice together forever as brethren of the great masonic family of the world."

R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, Chairman of the Committee on the Grand Lodge Library, made the following Report:

"That now it is a good collection of masonic works, embracing the best authors in English, French, and German, all well preserved and in fine condition. In the catalogue are many of rarity and of considerable cost ordinarily, but acquired at a moderate price by the indefatigable labors of those most interested in a matter so important, so desirable to every aspirant for information in masonic literature.*

"Every Lodge should have somewhat of a library, at least manuals and the works on jurisprudence. By their perusal the Master should be able to decide on those subjects which are constantly presented to his judgment and capacity. The Grand Secretary of this State has been generally the arbiter on vexed questions of masonic law in this jurisdiction in the United States."

* It is to be especially mentioned that there are the whole of all the serials published by that most erudite Mason, R.W. Br. Charles W. Winslow, embracing the labors of forty-five years. Among these, either in folio or octavo is the *Masonic Mirror*, which contains the best historical account of the masonic excitement extant; in fact there is no other copy known. priceless. These volumes will long remain as a proud monument of the accomplished editor.

s, and his office has been no sinecure in this respect for the period of thirty-four years.

Your Committee are pleased to report, that there is a growing interest as to the formation of libraries, and that several Lodges are actively moving on this subject; and a recent article from the pen of our Corresponding Grand Secretary to his own credit, is a document full of interest, showing the learned research of the ripe scholar and the devoted brother. It is to be hoped that this able paper will be printed.

How few of the Order are there who are cognizant of its history and its literature, so curious, so interesting, so extensive. Our nomenclature great stress is laid on the appellation of a 'Bright Mason' to any one who can give the verbiage of the rites, and may be totally ignorant of the enlarged information required to constitute the truly accomplished student of their foundation, its history, and epochs. It requires bright minds and varied attainments to make a real 'bright Mason.' Mere 'parotizing' will not produce 'brightness' in its proper and legitimate sense. The library of the Grand Lodge is in the beautiful office of the Grand Secretary, and is contained in two elaborately finished cases. One is fully filled, the other awaits the future donations of the craft. May it soon present a positive repletion. Every volume is stamped with a seal, denoting its ownership, and all, with a descriptive pamphlet, catalogued.

The committee acknowledge the liberal donations of Mrs. Susan Tucker, the widow of a beloved brother; and also of a complete set of the Freemasons' Magazine, from the R.W. Simon Robinson. The continuous bounty of our venerable and estimable Br. Thomas Waterman, is still manifested. A worthy example! would that his followers were more numerous.

"Respectfully submitted by

"WINSLOW LEWIS, *Chairman.*"

W. Br. Winslow Lewis presented to the M.W. Grand Lodge a Portrait of His Royal Highness Prince Frederic,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, completed the fiftieth anniversary of his Grand Mastership 1866.

Accompanying the presentation of the Portrait was the following letter from R. W. Br. Noordsiek, Grand Secretary

GRAND ORIENT OF THE NETHERLANDS,
HAGUE, Sept. 1,

To the R. W. Br. Winslow Lewis, P.G.M., &c.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I received through the Marshall P. Wilder your fraternal letter of April last. I did not meet him personally, but he forwarded to me from Brussels, under date of the 5th July, with your note, an engraving of "New Masonic Temple," at Boston, which you present for the Archives of the Grand East of the Netherlands.

I showed this testimony of your friendly feelings toward your brothers of this country, to the Grand Officers, and I am charged to return you their best thanks, and to assure you that this document met with the warmest reception.

I send you by the present conveyance the Portrait of the Illustrious Grand Master, Prince Frederic, which you desire to possess for your New Masonic Temple, and which I hope you will receive safely and in good order.

You will learn with great satisfaction that the large and valuable collection of books and manuscripts of the late Dr. Kloss, the property of the Grand Master, together with his own private collection (also large and valuable), have been placed in the Archives of this Grand East. Thus the two collections form a rare and unique, and of which we have great reason to be proud.

With fraternal regards, &c.,

J. G. F. NOORDSIEK, *Grand Secretary*

The M.W. Grand Lodge was then closed in A. Form.

SOLON THORNTON,
Grand Secretary

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

C. DAME, M. W. *Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

AND BROTHER,—I have the honor to submit my
 al Report as your Deputy in the First Masonic
 ich, by the new apportionment, comprises eleven
 e city of Boston proper, and three Lodges in East

Abstract from the Annual Returns to Sept. 1, 1867.

Lodge.	No. of Members,	Initiates.
's	346 . . .	29
ew's	41 . . .	5
usetts	195 . . .	32
an	308 . . .	24
anon	308 . . .	30
or	238 . . .	17
.	160 . . .	25
a	91 . . .	10
Lewis	62 . . .	10
.	173 . . .	18
Warren	268 . . .	50
t	67 . . .	35
r	64 . . .	12
.	46 . . .	3
Total	2,362 . . .	300

I am unable to make a comparison between this and the previous year, as regards amount of work, membership, &c. by reason of the change in the District, which placed us in a new territory, where the thriving Lodges of Brighton, Waltham, Watertown, and Belmont, (where the brethren always received with such kindness as to leave the most agreeable recollections,) and transferred from the old Twelfth District to the new Lodges located in Boston.

St. John's, St. Andrew's, Massachusetts, Columbia, Mt. Lebanon Lodges, full of years and masonic honors, are enjoying a high degree of prosperity. With large incomes and funds, they have been enabled to dispense charity liberally. Their work is good, harmony prevails, and they are governed by competent and faithful officers. Let such good influence continue, and the lapse of years will but strengthen and invigorate these venerable bodies. Mt. Tabor, Baalbec, Hammatt Lodges, of East Boston, are in good condition. Their work has differed somewhat from that established by the Grand Lodge, more especially in Baalbec Lodge; but this year I find a marked improvement, and doubt not, after the suggestions I had the honor to make to them, that they will gradually approximate towards the work as exemplified by the Grand Lecturers. In all other respects, they receive the warmest and heartiest commendation. Through a misunderstanding at the time, I was unable to publicly examine Germantown Lodge. Its work I had previously seen. Their Records are well kept, and the Returns show it to be in good condition. The Lodge of Eleusis makes but a small Return in the following abstract, for its By-Laws limit the number of meetings and candidates for degrees. It passed a good examination

llent hands, can but succeed. Winslow Lewis, ph Warren, and Aberdour Lodges are doing work, and are an honor to the jurisdiction. It lege to visit Aberdour Lodge in the early part accompanied by our brethren of the State Legis- e intelligent, finished, and correct work received ed approbation. . This Lodge is but a type of the which are equally commendable.

odges in the First District have manifested the y to the Grand Lodge, and in many ways, but arly in their response to the decree of the 13th t. At the close of the Communication on that f the principal officers of the Lodge of Eleusis hands their commutation fee of ten dollars each ; Lodge in the District, the first to respond. The inslow Lewis Lodge commuted for all its mem- g the amount to the Grand Treasurer. St. dge commuted for its maximum list of members, lthough its present number is but forty-one ; dge paid the munificent sum of three thousand and one dollars, commuting for all but one of its Revere Lodge also commuted for a large num- a of the other Lodges cheerfully met the require- Grand Lodge.

ed of the District presents a larger list of Dispen- ted then usual, and I would respectfully second n of R.W. Br. Chickering, made in his report of istrict for last year, that a fee be charged in such ould perhaps have a salutary effect in limiting ap- and if not, would be a proper source of revenue.

Thanking you for the honor you have conferred upon me, and, through you, the brethren who have aided me on the occasion of my official visits,

I am fraternally yours,

JAMES A. FOX,

D.D.G.M. First Masonic District.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — For a second time it becomes my duty to lay before you a statement of the condition of the District you have been pleased to place under my official charge, and in so doing, as a matter of brevity, I must beg leave to refer to my Report of last year, and say that the encomiums bestowed in that document upon such Lodges as were then in the old "Eleventh" District, but of late transferred to the "Second," may be again asserted with equal truthfulness and justice. My Report at that time was so voluminous that I shall at present simply record my impressions of the standing of the following Lodges, placed under my jurisdiction since the last Annual Session of the M.W. Grand Lodge, viz., Mount Carmel and Golden Fleece, of Lynn, William Sutton, of Saugus, and Robert Lash, of Chelsea; the latter working under Dispensation. The first two appear to be in healthy masonic condition; the character of

their work is excellent ; and I am confident that the interests of the Fraternity in that section are intrusted to good and faithful hands. William Sutton Lodge of Saugus, having but lately received its Charter, makes no Return to the Grand Lodge this year. During their short time of practice, the proficiency acquired in masonic work is worthy of the highest commendation. This Lodge has been presented by our liberal and worthy brother, William Sutton, with a set of Jewels of the most elegant and elaborate design, and are said to be the finest collection in the country. Robert Lash Lodge, of Chelsea, is working under Dispensation, and I have made an informal visit for the purpose of witnessing their work, which, I am pleased to say, is all that could be desired. During a temporary absence from this jurisdiction, I was under the necessity of deputizing R.W. Levi S. Gould, of Melrose, to act in my stead ; and in this capacity he visited the following Lodges, viz. : King Solomon, of Charlestown, Star of Bethlehem, of Chelsea, and Mount Vernon, of Malden, and his Report to me of their work and general condition is quite flattering and satisfactory. Annexed please find statement of work transacted by each Lodge during the past year : —

Name of Lodge.	Location.	No. of Members.	Initiates.
Star of Bethlehem	Chelsea	210 . .	16
Mount Hermon	Medford	119 . .	12
Mount Vernon	Malden	145 . .	21
Henry Price	Charlestown	164 . .	20
King Solomon	Charlestown	227 . .	16
Wyoming	Melrose	161 . .	22
Mount Carmel	Lynn	161 . .	25
Golden Fleece	Lynn	84 . .	18
		1271	150

With many thanks for your masonic courtesy, and the pleasure which your appointment has conferred,

I am fraternally yours,

S. O. DEARBORN,

D.D.G.M. Second Masonic District.

MELROSE, Dec. 10, 1867.

THIRD DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,— In compliance with established usage, and as the conclusion of a season of pleasant official duty, I have the honor to submit this my First Annual Report of the condition and standing of the several Lodges comprising the Third Masonic District for the year ending Sept. 1, 1867.

It has been my privilege to visit officially all the Lodges in the District during the past autumn ; and in every instance I have been received with cordial fraternity, and with the decorum and respect due me as the representative of the Grand Lodge ; and I am happy to report, from all I have been able to learn, that it has been a year of substantial progress in all that pertains to the highest interests of our Order. The healthful increase of numbers, the character and standing of those who have been permitted to enrol themselves with us, and a general spirit of unanimity and fraternity attest this. Most of the Lodges are in excellent condition.

Specimens of work were given which for accuracy and impressiveness, I venture to remark, would compare favorably with the best working Lodges in the State. The good order that prevailed was a noticeable feature. These remarks must not be understood as applying to all. In one or two instances there is room for improvement.

The following table gives the present *status* of the several Lodges, and is here given as a matter for convenient reference.

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.
Middlesex	Framingham	51 . .	10
Washington	Roxbury	208 . .	18
Union	Dorchester	163 . .	13
Meridian	Natick	103 . .	12
Bethesda	Brighton	83 . .	10
St. Paul's	South Boston	212 . .	12
Gate of the Temple	" "	149 . .	16
Dalhousie	Newton	126 . .	16
La Fayette	Roxbury	38 . .	12
Adelphi	South Boston	47 . .	22
Eliot	West Roxbury	31 . .	8
		1206	149

The number of "rejections" leads me to suggest great caution in presenting the names of candidates for the honors of Masonry, and also to solicit the most kindly, considerate, and charitable action on the part of each member of the Lodge in relation to such candidate.

I have granted but few Dispensations, and those only when there were the strongest possible reasons therefor.

For the kindly receptions, pleasant interviews, and hospitable entertainments, I return to the members of the Third District my sincere thanks. I wish also to express my deep sense of gratitude to the several gentlemen who have so kindly

accompanied me as members of my suite while making my series of official visits, — to Brothers W. H. Saunders, G. E. Bridges, J. B. Goodrich, and particularly to Br. N. B. Bryant, who has so acceptably and efficiently performed the duties of Marshal of the deputation.

In closing, allow me to return to you my gratefully acknowledgments for the honor you have done me by this appointment. Its duties have been attended by the pleasantest associations, and with the best wishes for the good of our Order,

I remain sincerely and fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRIGHAM,

D.D.G.M. Third Masonic District.

AUBURDALE, Dec. 12, 1867.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the honor of submitting to you the following Report of the condition of the several Lodges comprising the Fourth Masonic District, and the results of the work for the year ending Sept. 1, 1867.

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Corinthian	Concord	4 . . .	61
Hiram	Arlington	17 . . .	189
Amicable	Cambridgeport	18 . . .	221
Monitor	Waltham	20 . . .	127
Putnam	East Cambridge	12 . . .	94

Pequossitte	Watertown	8	102
John Abbott	Somerville	15	171
Mount Olivet	Cambridge	17	86
Belmont	Belmont	9	20
		<u>120</u>	<u>1021</u>

It affords me great pleasure to state that all the Lodges comprising the Fourth District are in a prosperous condition. I have in all cases been kindly received as your Deputy, and take pleasure in returning you my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me by the appointment.

I remain very truly and fraternally yours,

HENRY ENDICOTT,

D.D.G.M. Fourth Masonic District.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the honor herewith to submit the following Report of the condition of the several Lodges comprised in the Fifth Masonic District.

In my official visits to the Lodges, I have been extremely gratified with the excellent appearance of the Lodge rooms, most of which are large and convenient, the efficiency of the officers, the general deportment of the members, and the admirable manner in which the work is performed.

Liberty Lodge is erecting a beautiful Masonic Hall, which will be a credit to the ancient town of Beverly, and I trust

that other Lodges in this District will soon emulate her example; for it seems to me that all that is necessary for the accomplishment of that result is encouragement and a little exertion on the part of the brethren.

The following table will show the number of members, and the number of initiates in each Lodge.

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.
Philanthropic	Marblehead	94	11
Tyrian	Gloucester	145	21
Essex	Salem	130	13
Jordan	South Danvers	100	10
Liberty	Beverly	147	14
Ashler	Rockport	98	9
Amity	Danvers	115	12
Starr King	Salem	80	9
John T. Heard	Ipswich	71	15
Acacia	Gloucester	51	19
		<u>1081</u>	<u>138</u>

The above table, compared with the preceding year, shows an increase of one hundred and fifteen members, and a decrease of thirty-two in the number of initiates.

The number of rejections in this District has been unusually large during the past year. More than one-third of the whole number of applicants have been rejected, and while we should carefully scrutinize the character of the applicants, and admit none but those of proper age, capacity, and moral fitness, yet the figures seem to indicate that either unworthy candidates are presented for admission, or some are rejected from improper motives. As far as I am able to judge, those who have been admitted are "men of good report."

Where all the Lodges are working so well, it would be invidious in me to particularize; but the excellence of the

work in several of the Lodges in this District, the beautiful and impressive manner in which the explanations and charges are delivered, and the systematic arrangement of the details, reflect great credit upon the officers and members; while the perceptible improvement made in other Lodges deserves great praise.

I have granted but three Dispensations to confer the degrees out of the usual course, all of which I am satisfied were for cases of necessity.

In closing my Report, I desire to express my sincere thanks to the officers and members of the several Lodges for the uniform kindness extended to me during the term of my official service.

I desire also to tender my thanks to those brethren who have so readily aided me in the discharge of my official duties; and wishing you success and prosperity in the discharge of the arduous duties of the office to which you have with so much unanimity been re-elected,

I remain fraternally yours,

GEORGE H. PEIRSON,

D.D.G.M. Fifth Masonic District.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—It is a source of satisfaction in submitting this, my Annual Report, to be able to state that

the Lodges comprising the Sixth Masonic District are in a prosperous and exceedingly satisfactory condition. An unusually large number of Masons have been made. I am satisfied, however, that for the most part they are such as will add to our strength and efficiency, as well as increase our numbers. I have during the year visited all the Lodges in an official capacity once, and the majority of them frequently several times. The Records I have invariably carefully examined, and find everything in accordance with masonic usage.

Very few Dispensation have been issued, owing perhaps in part to the fact that it is now generally understood that a Dispensation will only be granted upon the presentation of urgent and satisfactory reasons. The following statistics may be of some importance to the Fraternity.

Name and Location of Lodge.	Initiates.	Members.
St. John's, Newburyport	14	163
Merrimack, Haverhill	14	180
St. Mark's, Newburyport	29	111
Warren, Amesbury	18	128
St. Matthew's, Andover	14	93
Grecian, Lawrence	35	215
John Hancock, Methuen	13	76
Tuscan, Lawrence	35	112
Saggahew, Haverhill	13	80
Total	185	1158

The most noticeable event which has occurred in the district during the year has been the organization of a new Lodge in the town of Georgetown, and known by the name of Charles C. Dame Lodge. This Lodge is composed of active, earnest brethren, who have the interests of the Order at heart. It is ably officered, and with the new and beau-

Hall, built expressly for their use, I feel that there is no bar to their continuous prosperity.

It was to me a source of regret that I was not able to be present when this Lodge was constituted, its hall dedicated, and officers installed.

I availed myself, however, of the earliest opportunity which presented itself to examine their apartments. Long may this Lodge continue, honoring the name it bears, and exerting, through the healing streams of its charitable ministrations, a salutary and beneficial influence. The past year has been one of immense importance to the Fraternity. The completion and dedication of the magnificent structure known as the new MASONIC TEMPLE was an event which will be remembered for a lifetime. I am happy to know that all of our Lodges were represented, and took part in the festivities of that joyful occasion. "As our eyes behold the pleasing symmetry and beautiful proportions of this our material Temple, may we recognize the fact, that Masonry is the architect of another Temple, whose foundation is laid deep in the human heart, and over whose altar is inscribed, "Holiness to the Lord."

In conclusion, I desire to add that the year has been one involving quite an amount of labor, and has "sufficiently demonstrated" the wisdom of re-arranging the Districts. New and pleasant acquaintances have been formed in these Lodges, which did not belong to the old Third District, and for the courtesy and kind attention shown me by the officers and members of these Lodges, I desire "here and now" to record my grateful appreciation. Thanking you for the renewed

manifestation of your confidence as shown in a second re-appointment,

I am, with the kindest regards, yours fraternally,

L. A. BISHOP,

D.D.G.M. Sixth Masonic District.

LAWRENCE, Dec., 1867.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,— I have the honor to submit my official Report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Seventh Masonic District.

I have made an official visit to all the Lodges in this District, with the exception of Pentucket Lodge in Lowell. Sickness prevented my attending a Special Communication of this Lodge, called to exemplify their work, and I am under obligation to W. Br. William S. Salmon for performing my duties on that occasion.

Br. Salmon's Report of the condition of this Lodge is in all respects favorable.

My official visits have all been pleasant and agreeable, and the Lodges in this District appear to be in a satisfactory and prosperous condition.

I have been much pleased to notice that the candidate, in most of the Lodges, is now required to make greater proficiency in his preceding degree before he is permitted to advance.

It has also been gratifying to me to witness the increased interest felt in the Lodges throughout the District in securing good music. Every hall has its larger or smaller organ. Music is regarded now as an almost indispensable part of the work, and it adds much to its beauty and impressiveness.

Dispensations have been granted in a few instances, for good and sufficient reasons shown, to confer the Second and Third Degrees before the candidates were constitutionally eligible to receive them.

The commission I received from you contained the names of eight Chartered Lodges, and one, Kilwinning, working under Dispensation. On the twenty-sixth day of March last, Kilwinning Lodge was consecrated by the M.W. Grand Lodge, and is now working successfully under its Charter, giving promise of future usefulness.

Early in the year, a petition to the Grand Lodge was approved by me for another Lodge in Lowell, to be called the William North Lodge. The petitioners were all personally known to me. They are all intelligent, zealous Masons, and are working prosperously under the Dispensation which was obtained from the M.W. Grand Master.

The following table will show the number of initiates during the year, and the number of members of the several Lodges, at the close of the year, in this District.

Lodges.	Locations.	Initiates.	Members.
St. Paul's	Groton	7 . . .	46
Aurora	Fitchburg	22 . . .	128
Pentucket	Lowell	28 . . .	298
Ancient York	"	11 . . .	201
Mount Horeb	Woburn	7 . . .	82
Caleb Butler	Groton Junction	5 . . .	59
William Parkman	Winchester	7 . . .	47

Charles W. Moore . . .	Fitchburg . . .	13 . .	34
Kilwinning (chartered			
March 28, 1867) . . .	Lowell . . .	1 . .	31
		<u>99</u>	<u>928</u>

In conclusion, I desire to express my gratitude to you for the honor conferred upon me, and to all the Lodges in the District for having been so cordially received and so courteously treated, and I respectfully ask that the honors of the office may be bestowed upon some other brother, in making your appointment for another year.

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

CHARLES KIMBALL,

D.D.G.M. Seventh Masonic District.

LOWELL, Dec. 6, 1867.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DANE, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In accordance with my duty, I have the honor to submit to you my Report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Eighth Masonic District.

As this is the first year of the redistricting of the State, I am not able, from any Reports within my reach, to compare the work of the Lodges in my District with the preceding year; yet I am quite certain that if such a comparison were made, it would appear that the different Lodges have been as active as in any previous year.

The number of ipitiates in this District for the past year is one hundred and two, as appears by the following table :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Republican	Greenfield	12 . .	151
Harmony	Northfield	6 . .	60
Pacific	Amherst	11 . .	110
Mountain	Sherburne Falls	13 . .	79
Bethel	Enfield	2 . .	75
Orange	Orange	19 . .	89
Hope	Gardner	19 . .	64
Star	Athol	13 . .	72
Artisan	Winchenden	7 . .	27
		<hr/> 102	<hr/> 727

I find, by examination of the Returns, that in several of the Lodges there has been a large number of rejections, nearly equalling the number of accepted; and I have not failed in my visits to call the attention of the brethren to this important matter, and particularly to ask them to consider the views so justly and forcibly expressed by you in your last Annual Communication to the Grand Lodge. I can but hope that our brethren will be more cautious and "will refrain from recommending any one to a participation in our privileges," unless they believe him to be worthy, and one who will "reflect honor on our ancient Institution."

I am happy to report to you that nowhere in my District have I found, at any time, any serious discontent or objection to the order of the Grand Lodge imposing a tax upon the members of Lodges for the purpose of liquidating the large debt of the Grand Lodge; on the contrary, when the matter has been explained to the uninformed, I have found a cheerful acquiescence and willingness to share in the liquidation of this debt, proud of the noble and beautiful Temple which has

been erected, and happy in the reflections that by their contributions they are aiding to put the Grand Lodge (within a few years) in possession of resources by and with which to exercise more fully the noble principles of our Order.

I have visited all the Lodges of the District, and have been most cordially and pleasantly received. I have inspected their Records, and witnessed their manner of work, and with one or two exceptions I have to report all as entirely satisfactory. In some of them my highest expectations have been more than realized, and in the one or two exceptions the disappointment was the result of causes apparently beyond the control of those Lodges the past year. I have every reason to believe, however, that as they are now re-organized for the coming year, we may expect great improvements and more perfect work. When nearly all are working so admirably, some with better accommodations and more perfect appointments, still all striving to preserve the "ancient landmarks" and to transmit them unimpaired, it would seem almost invidious to single out any one or more for special commendation, and I content myself with this general Report.

I am fraternally your obedient servant,

J. F. CONKEY,

D.D.G.M. Eighth Masonic District.

AMHERST, Nov. 27, 1867.

NINTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In consideration of the Ninth Masonic District having been considerably abridged in extent of territory, thus reducing the care and time consumed in visiting and looking after the Lodges, I yielded to your solicitation, notwithstanding my previously declared determination, and consented to remain in the Board of District Deputies another year. Thanking you for this renewed expression of your confidence, I now herewith submit a brief Report of the condition of the Lodges in this District for the past year.

I have made at least one formal official visit to each Lodge in the District within the year. I have also visited some of them informally several times, and been in frequent correspondence with their officers. I am happy to report that in most of them a good feeling exists, harmony and brotherly love prevails, and the Lodges are prosperous.

Most of the Lodges are now well posted in the Ritual of the Order, and their work is done creditably, and in some of the Lodges, as, for instance, Mount Moriah, Mystic, and Lafayette (the latter a few years since one of the most inaccurate in the District), exceedingly well. There have been fewer initiates in the District than for two or three years previous; but we think a good degree of discrimination has been exercised as to the character of the men, and that Masonry is as prosperous as when the increase was more rapid. A close observer does not need to be reminded that strength does not

always consist of numbers, and that a too rapid growth sometimes weakens instead of strengthens a body, more especially if a close scrutiny and care is not exercised as to the intelligence, standing, and character of those received.

I present the following tabular view of the work and condition of the Lodges in the Ninth District :

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Cincinnatus . . .	Great Barrington . . .	15 . .	181
Evening Star . . .	Lee	12 . .	77
Wisdom	West Stockbridge . . .	5 . .	43
Mystic	Pittsfield	9 . .	135
Lafayette	North Adams	21 . .	113
Mount Moriah . . .	Westfield	11 . .	191
Berkshire	South Adams	7 . .	66
		<u>80</u>	<u>755</u>

In addition to this, the new Lodge at Huntington, under Dispensation, called Huntington Lodge, has made a very good beginning, is posting up in the work, and, with some assistance from abroad, has made eight or ten Masons. It is manifesting a good spirit of perseverance and zeal, and, though located in a comparatively sparsely populated mountain region, will undoubtedly sustain itself and grow in numbers and strength.

Dispensations for shortening time between degrees have been much less frequently asked for than in former years, and where good and sufficient reasons have accompanied the application, they have been granted.

With renewed assurances of my kind regard, I remain,

Fraternally and truly yours,

HENRY CHICKERING,

D.D.G.M. Ninth Masonic District.

PITTSFIELD, Dec. 1, 1867.

TENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — It is with pleasure I submit this, my Third Annual Report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Tenth Masonic District.

During the year, I have officially visited all of the Lodges in this District once, and many of them several times informally. I have examined their By-Laws, and find them approved by the Grand Lodge, Charters carefully preserved, and the Records well and faithfully kept.

I have witnessed an exemplification of work in each Lodge, and where all are conforming so strictly to the Ritual as taught by the Grand Lecturers, I deem it unnecessary to particularize the excellences or defects of the work in each Lodge. I am confident the Lodges comprising the Tenth District will compare favorably in points of accuracy of work with any other District in the jurisdiction.

As a general thing, peace and harmony have prevailed among the Fraternity in this District. The "Order and Decree" passed by the Grand Lodge at its Quarterly Communication in March last, taxing the members of Subordinate Lodges, caused some dissatisfaction; but, on its being better understood, the wisdom and necessity of it have very generally been acquiesced in. I trust that all will soon be convinced of its justice, and acknowledge their obligations to support and maintain the particular regulations of the M.W. Grand Lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside.

One new Lodge has been formed this year (now under Dispensation), "Ionic," at East Hampton, which is in earnest and trusty hands, doing a goodly amount of work, and bids fair to be a flourishing Lodge.

My visits have been rendered exceedingly pleasant by the brotherly manner in which I have been received as your representative.

The following table will show the amount of work done this year, in each Lodge.

Name.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Jerusalem	Northampton . . .	33 . .	198
Mount Tom	Holyoke	15 . .	136
Chicopee	Chicopee	15 . .	166
Hampden	Springfield	57 . .	99
Roswell Lee	"	42 . .	143
Day Spring	Monson	10 . .	36
Thomas	Palmer	16 . .	82
Quaboag	Warren	15 . .	77
Hayden	Brookfield	18 . .	56
Eden	Ware	4 . .	37
		<hr/> 225	<hr/> 1030

Thanking you for the honor conferred by appointing me one of your Deputies,

I remain, very respectfully and fraternally,

DAVID W. CRAFTS,

D.D.G.M. Tenth Masonic District.

NORTHAMPTON, Dec. 6, 1867.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In accordance with custom and the requirements of the Grand Constitutions, I herewith submit my Annual Report. I have visited all the Lodges in the Eleventh District, and find the work, as a whole, very good. Most of the Lodges take great pains to have the work correct; yet, in some instances, a visit from the Grand Lecturers would be of great benefit. I am happy to state that harmony prevails throughout the District. The following table will enable you to see the work done the past year.

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Morning Star	Worcester	45	208
Mount Zion	Barre	19	98
Trinity	Clinton	15	85
Montacute	Worcester	27	194
United Brethren	Marlborough	18	79
Quinebaug	Southbridge	7	69
Wilder	Leominster	6	82
Doric	Hudson	22	80
North Star	Ashland	5	65
Athelstane	Worcester	18	60
		<hr/> 182	<hr/> 1017

The amount of work exceeds that of any previous year for the same number of Lodges. It is unnecessary for me to enter into a detailed account of each Lodge at this time, and I will therefore simply say that the Lodges of the Eleventh District still maintain their previous good reputation. In closing, allow me to thank you for the renewed token of your

confidence, and the brethren of the Eleventh District for the kind attentions which they have shown me.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

A. A. BURDITT,

D.D.G.M. Eleventh Masonic District.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In closing another year of my official duties as District Deputy Grand Master, you will please allow me to make my Report in as few words as possible.

Monday, December 24, 1866, received an invitation from North Star Lodge, in Ashland, to visit that Lodge and install the officers. I accepted the invitation, and was well paid for attending, in the "good time" that all present had on this occasion. The installation was public.

Monday, January 7, 1867, visited Mount Hollis Lodge, Holliston, and installed the officers.

May 13 to May 16, inclusive, I visited the Masters and Wardens of the several Lodges in this District, as you requested. The result of these visits you have been made acquainted with in a previous communication.

My official visits have been made in the following order, and with the following result, which I sincerely hope will be satisfactory.

Name of Lodge.	When Visited.	Initiates.	Members.
Oxford	September 16, 1867 . . .	5 . . .	46
Webster	" 17, " . . .	7 . . .	85
Olive Branch	" 18, " . . .	12 . . .	105
Franklin	" 19, " . . .	10 . . .	63
Siloam	" 21, " . . .	1 . . .	38
Solomon's Temple	" 21, " . . .	15 . . .	84
Montgomery	" 26, " . . .	15 . . .	161
Blackstone River	October 8, " . . .	16 . . .	84
John Warren	" 4, " . . .	11 . . .	46
Mount Hollis	" 7, " . . .	19 . . .	47
		<hr/> 111	<hr/> 758

In the above table, I have returned as many members for each Lodge as the Lodge paid annual dues to the Grand Lodge, and no more. In John Warren Lodge, Hopkinton, there was quite a number of brethren that had not paid their dues, but the W.M. told me that he would use his best endeavors to have the Grand Lodge dues collected before the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, and paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

In Mount Hollis Lodge, Holliston, there was a small number left in the same way.

Two of the Lodges in this District I did not meet with, namely, Siloam Lodge, Westborough, and Solomon's Temple Lodge, Uxbridge. I made an appointment to meet with Siloam Lodge, Friday evening, September 20, but missed the cars, and did not get there until the next day. I examined their Records, and found them in good order and well kept. The Secretary also informed me that they were receiving instructions from the Grand Lecturer, that in a short time he thought they would be able to do the work to the entire satisfaction of the Grand Lodge, and that they were determined to do so.

On account of a misunderstanding, occasioned by not receiving a letter in season from the W.M. of Solomon's Temple Lodge, there was no meeting of that Lodge the evening that I made my official visit; but the Lodge is under the management of one of the best Working Masters in this District, and I have confidence to believe that the work has been done in all respects agreeably to the rules and usages of the Order. The work of Oxford Lodge was not quite as well done as it has been on former occasions, when I have visited that Lodge; but they say that they will commence to improve their work immediately. I think the work in all the other Lodges in this District is such as the Grand Lodge would approve if they were to see it done. I call it good work. I have granted but very few Dispensations to shorten the time of conferring degrees. There were a few that received the Third Degree a little short of the usual time, for the purpose of attending the celebration on the 24th of June.

Hoping that what I have done will meet with your approval and that of the Lodges of the Twelfth District, and thanking both you and them for the honor conferred on me,

I remain very humbly and fraternally yours,

HENRY C. SKINNER,

D.D.G.M. Twelfth Masonic District.

MILFORD, Dec. 1, 1867.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — It is with pleasure I now submit my Annual Report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

During the year I have visited officially all the Lodges in the District, and have been received by all in a very courteous manner as your representative. The work is done in most of the Lodges in a very commendable manner, but in some of the new Lodges the officers were not as well posted in masonic law or the work as they should be. The success of a Lodge mainly depends upon its Master, and I think that no one should fill that position unless he has qualified himself to give the work in full.

I have found the Records in all the Lodges well kept.

The following table shows the number of members and initiates :—

Name of Lodge.	Initiates.	Members.
Bristol	10	101
King David	28	257
Rising Star	8	89
St. Albans	10	110
Orient	22	78
Blue Hill	4	36
St. James	5	58
Hyde Park	16	46
Alfred Baylies	12	62
Excelsior	9	38
	<hr/> 122	<hr/> 870

By your request, I visited Ionic and Paul Dean Lodges,

working under Dispensation, and found them both in a prosperous condition. Their officers were well posted and done their work in a manner highly creditable to themselves. In conclusion, please accept my thanks for the appointment assigned me.

JONATHAN R. GAY.

D.D.G.M. Thirteenth Masonic District.

STOUGHTON, Dec. 24, 1867.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I take pleasure in communicating to you the following Report, from which may be gathered the present condition of the Lodges which you have seen fit to assign to my care as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourteenth District. I have visited all the Lodges, and find them in good condition, and most of them able to perform the work as exemplified by the Grand Lecturers. I was much pleased to see with what proficiency the two youngest Lodges in the District performed the work, viz., King Philip, of Fall River, and Oriental, of Edgartown. I doubt if any of the old Lodges in the State could do better.

Annexed please find the standing of each Lodge.

Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Marine	Falmouth	2	48
Mount Hope	Fall River	26	195
Star in the East	New Bedford	23	318

Pioneer	Somerset	11	81
May Flower	Middleborough	13	70
Pythagorean	Marion	11	51
Martha's Vineyard . . .	Tisbury	5	80
Eureka	New Bedford	15	155
King Philip	Fall River	18	75
Oriental	Edgartown	1	16
		<hr/>	
		125	1085

Thanking you for the honor of being one of your Deputies,

I remain most truly and fraternally yours,

GEORGE H. TABER,

D.D.G.M. Fourteenth Masonic District.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In making my Report at the close of another masonic year, I shall endeavor to be brief, as all that it seems necessary to state may be comprehended in a few words. I have made an official visit to every Lodge, save one, within this jurisdiction, and I am happy to say that I have never found them in a more healthy, prosperous condition, or their work more uniform and excellent than at the present time.

Circumstances rendered it exceedingly inconvenient for me to visit Union Lodge, Nantucket, and I therefore deputized Past Master A. B. Robinson, who kindly consented to dis-

charge the duty for me, and from whom I learn that its former prosperity and good reputation for excellence of work are not impaired.

There has evidently been more than usual interest taken by the officers and members of the several Lodges in the Fifteenth District in perfecting themselves in the exact work, as prescribed by the Grand Lodge. One or two in particular, who have been somewhat imperfect in this respect, — one greatly so, — now rank among the best working Lodges in the District. James Otis Lodge, Barnstable, and Adam's Lodge, Wellfleet, chartered the past year, are doing exceedingly well. The officers are well instructed in the Ritual, the members actively alive to the interests of Masonry, and the Lodges promise to be very successful. I make the following exhibit : —

Name of Lodge.	Initiates.	Members.
Nantucket	6 . .	109
King Hiram	21 . .	158
Fraternal	5 . .	167
Social Harmony	0 . .	70
Pilgrim	8 . .	142
De Witt Clinton	8 . .	46
Mount Horeb	20 . .	141
James Otis	11 . .	30
Adams	9 . .	53
	<hr/> 88	<hr/> 916

In my official visits, I would say I was everywhere most kindly and cordially received and welcomed, both in my official capacity and as a brother among brothers, for which I acknowledge my gratitude.

You will also please accept my thanks for your kindly favor in twice conferring upon me the honor of an appoint-

ment as District Deputy Grand Master, and wishing you an abundant reward for the many and arduous labors performed, interest felt, trials and perplexities endured in behalf of our beloved Institution the past year, and that you may live a long and prosperous life,

I am yours, respectfully and fraternally,

R. S. POPE,

D.D.G.M. Fifteenth Masonic District.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — Having been honored by you with the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master for the Sixteenth Masonic District, I have endeavored to discharge the duties of the office to the best of my ability. I have visited the Lodges comprising the District one or more times, as convenience or occasion have required, and am pleased to report that all are working in harmony, and enjoying prosperity.

Old Colony Lodge, Hingham, still maintains its reputation as a model working Lodge; its Records are very neatly and correctly kept, and the officers are very earnest in their endeavors to have the members well versed in the Ritual.

Fellowship Lodge, Bridgewater, is the only Lodge in the District chartered previous to the anti-masonic crusade in

1830-31 that did not return its Charter to the Grand Lodge. I did not have an opportunity of witnessing the work on the occasion of my official visit, but had the pleasure of meeting P.G. Master Coolidge, who was present, and installed the officers of the Lodge for the ensuing year. I was pleased to see quite a number of the aged members present, and taking an active part in the business of the Lodge. But two were initiated during the year, although quite a number of applicants were rejected, which I was informed was to the satisfaction of the Lodge. Quality is better than quantity.

Rural Lodge, Quincy, is prospering finely. On the occasion of my visit, they met for the last time in the hall which they have occupied for several years. Their next Communication is to be held in a new hall, which has been built and fitted up expressly for their use. The work of the Lodge was well done, and the Records correct.

Corner Stone Lodge, Duxbury, has initiated fourteen; present number of members, forty-eight. On the night of my visit, I installed the officers for the ensuing year, and consequently was unable to see the work in full; but that which I did witness, and from my knowledge of its officers, assures me that the interests of the Lodge will be well cared for.

Norfolk Union Lodge, Randolph, is doing well in its new hall, one of the finest in the District. This Lodge has efficient officers and reliable members.

Orphans' Hope Lodge, Weymouth, still retains its reputation for correct work, and for its cultivation of the genuine principles of our Order. Its Records are such as might

be expected from a Secretary who has been the unanimous choice of his Lodge for eleven consecutive years.

Plymouth Lodge, Plymouth, which a few years ago was dependent upon the exertions of a few persevering brothers for its existence, is now doing finely. It has a good hall, well furnished, officers who are prompt in their duties, and its meetings are well attended.

Paul Revere Lodge, North Bridgewater. It was my good fortune to visit this Lodge on the occasion of their first meeting in a new hall, which is the largest in the District devoted to masonic purposes. It is fitted up in the most thorough manner, and located in the centre of a thriving town. They are doing much work, and doing it well.

John Cutler Lodge, Abington, has initiated twenty-four, being the largest number of any Lodge in the District. The evening of my visitation, the Third Degree was conferred by the officers who occupied their positions for the second time, having been installed a few evenings previous. It was impressive and correct; showing a proficiency seldom obtained by those who have not had large experience.

Konnohasset Lodge, Cohasset, although the youngest Lodge, is second to none in its allegiance to the Grand Lodge. More of the members of this Lodge have responded to the order of last March, by paying for the full term, than in all of the other Lodges in the District. In this Lodge, as in Old Colony, a candidate is required to be proficient in each degree taken before being advanced to another.

I annex the accompanying table : —

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Old Colony	Hingham	4	83
Fellowship	Bridgewater	2	109
Rural	Quincy	9	128
Corner Stone	Duxbury	14	48
Norfolk Union	Randolph	7	62
Orphans' Hope	Weymouth	10	149
Plymouth	Plymouth	9	181
Paul Revere	North Bridgewater	23	131
John Cutler	Abington	24	116
Konnohasset	Cohasset	12	48
		114	1003

In conclusion, allow me to thank the Lodges of the
 teenth Masonic District for the very cordial and fraternal
 manner in which, as your representative, I have been
 ceived. Every courtesy that could be desired has been shown
 me.

Thanking you for the honor of the appointment,

I remain truly and fraternally yours,

Z. L. BICKNELL

D.D.G.M. Sixteenth Masonic District

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR CHINA

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I again go through the
 of reporting from the District of China, — a *form*
 cause I have but one Lodge under my jurisdiction
 which I am myself a member. But I have thought

sirable to make a Report, if only to assure you that we, in this distant country, are still mindful of our allegiance to the M.W. Grand Lodge, and anxious to be remembered in the enumeration of her children.

We regretted, extremely, that we were not represented, even by proxy,* in the late glorious celebration of the completion of the Masonic Temple; but, though absent in the flesh, we were present in the spirit. In this connection, I have seen it stated that an additional fee or tax has been levied for the purpose of relieving the Temple from debt; but, as I have not been officially informed of any such action of the Grand Lodge, of course I can take no action; but I feel confident that such a demand, when duly made, will be promptly and cheerfully responded to. I presume that in due time I shall be fully informed, especially as to whether it is a tax upon the Lodge, or upon the members personally.

Of course, our Lodge "Returns" cannot go home before the end of the masonic year; but, in order that we might be heard from at the Annual Meeting in December, I made a formal visit to the Lodge (Ancient Landmark) at its stated meeting for this month (September); and I am happy to say that I found that its Records are very neatly and correctly kept by the very able and zealous Secretary, Br. Fobes.

That the utmost harmony prevails in the Lodge, I know, from and through my constant intercourse with it.

That the work, in some particulars, is not quite up to the

* This Lodge was represented by its proxy, and also by its Past Master Hill.

high standard fixed by W. Br. Hill, is quite true; but that it is still far superior to that of any other Lodge here is, I think, also true; and as traditions of its former excellence are still cherished in the Lodge, there is little danger of any permanent deterioration in this respect.

The Lodge meetings have been very fully attended, and the number of visitors indicates a general interest in its work.

I have granted five Dispensations for conferring degrees out of time, but all of them under peculiar circumstances, and with the express condition that the candidates should pass a satisfactory examination in the previous degrees; and this condition has, I am confident, been fully and in good faith complied with in every case. No Dispensation has been granted for conferring more than one degree upon the same candidate at the same meeting.

I have, somewhat reluctantly, granted two Dispensations for funeral processions; but I have every reason for believing that the processions and funerals were conducted in a very quiet and creditable manner.

The Returns will, in due time, show the amount of work done. At present I can only say that the Lodge has had more work than it could do at its stated meetings, and has consequently held several special or emergency meetings.

Trusting that we shall merit and secure a continuance of the favor heretofore so kindly shown us by the M.W. Grand Lodge, I remain, M.W. Sir,

Truly and fraternally yours,

T. B. EAMES,

D.D.G.M. for China

SHANGHAI, Sept. 21, 1867.

RECAPITULATION.

	Members.	Initiates
District No. 1	2,362	300
District No. 2	1,271	150
District No. 3	1,206	149
District No. 4	1,021	120
District No. 5	1,081	133
District No. 6	1,158	185
District No. 7	928	99
District No. 8	727	102
District No. 9	755	80
District No. 10	1,080	225
District No. 11	1,017	182
District No. 12	758	111
District No. 13	870	122
District No. 14	1,085	125
District No. 15	916	88
District No. 16	1,008	114
Total	17,136	2,285

LIST OF LODGES.

LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF

THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,

ACCORDING TO DISTRICTS.

DISTRICT No. I. (BOSTON.)

R.W. JAMES A. FOX, OF BOSTON, D.D.G.M.

ST. JOHN'S, Boston (1733).	WINSLOW LEWIS, Boston (1856).
ST. ANDREWS, Boston (1756).	REVERE, Boston (1856).
MASSACHUSETTS, Boston (1770).	JOSEPH WARREN, Boston (1857).
COLUMBIAN, Boston (1796).	HAMMATT, East Boston (1860).
MOUNT LEBANON, Boston (1801).	ABERDOUR, Boston (1861).
MOUNT TABOR, East Boston (1846).	ELEUSIS, Boston (1865).
BAALBEC, East Boston (1853).	ZETLAND, Boston (U.D.).
GERMANIA, Boston (1855).	

DISTRICT No. II. (CHARLESTOWN.)

R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER, OF CHELSEA, D.D.G.M.

KING SOLOMON, Charlestown (1783).	MOUNT VERNON, Malden (1858).
MOUNT CARMEL, Lynn (1805).	HENRY PRICE, Charlestown (1859).
STAR OF BETHLEHEM, Chelsea (1843).	GOLDEN FLEECE, Lynn (1865).
MOUNT HERMON, Medford (1854).	WILLIAM SUTTON, Saugus (1867).
WYOMING, Melrose (1857).	ROBERT LASH, Chelsea (1867).

DISTRICT No. III. (ROXBURY.)

R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, OF AUBURNDALE, D.D.G.M.

MIDDLESEX, Framingham (1795.)	GATE OF THE TEMPLE, South Boston (1856).
WASHINGTON, Roxbury (1797).	DALHOUSIE, Newtonville (1861).
UNION, Dorchester (1796).	LAFAYETTE, Roxbury (1861).
MERIDIAN, Natick (1797).	ADELPHI, South Boston (1866).
BETHESDA, Brighton (1819).	ELIOT, West Roxbury (1867).
St. PAULS, South Boston (1847).	

DISTRICT No. IV. (CAMBRIDGE.)

R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT, OF CAMBRIDGEPORT, D.D.G.M.

CORINTHIAN, Concord (1797).	JOHN ABBOT, Somerville (1858).
HIRAM, Arlington (1797).	Mt. OLIVET, Old Cambridge (1864).
AMICABLE, Cambridgeport (1805).	BELMONT, Belmont (1865).
MONITOR, Waltham (1820).	ISAAC PARKER, Waltham (U.D.).
PUTNAM, East Cambridge (1864.)	MIZPAH, Cambridge (U.D.).
PEQUOSSETTE, Watertown (1857.)	

DISTRICT No. V. (SALEM.)

R.W. GEORGE A. PEIRSON, OF SALEM, D.D.G.M.

PHILANTHROPIC, Marblehead (1760).	ASHLEE, Rockport (1852).
TYRIAN, Gloucester (1770).	AMITY, Danvers (1863).
ESSEX, Salem (1779).	STARR KING, Salem (1865).
JORDAN, South Danvers (1808).	JOHN T. HEARD, Ipswich (1865).
LIBERTY, Beverly (1824).	ACACIA, Gloucester (1866).

DISTRICT No. VI. (NEWBURYPORT.)

R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, OF LAWRENCE, D.D.G.M.

St. JOHN'S Newburyport (1766).	GRECIAN, Lawrence (1825).
MERRIMAC, Haverhill (1802).	JOHN HANCOCK, Methuen (1860).
St. MARK'S, Newburyport (1808).	TUSCAN LAWRENCE (1863).
WARREN, Amesbury (1822).	SAGGAHEW, Haverhill (1865).
St. MATTHEW'S, Andover (1822).	CHARLES C. DANE, Georgetown (1867).

DISTRICT No. VII. (LOWELL.)

R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL, OF LOWELL, D.D.G.M.

ST. PAUL's, Groton (1797).	CALEB BUTLER, Groton Junc. (1859).
AURORA, Fitchburg (1801).	WM. PARKMAN, Winchester (1865).
PENTUCKET, Lowell (1807).	CHAS. W. MOORE, Fitchburg (1866).
ANCIENT YORK, Lowell (1853).	KILWINNING, Lowell (1867).
MOUNT HOREB, Woburn (1855).	WILLIAM NORTH, Lowell (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. VIII. (GREENFIELD.)

R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY, OF AMHERST, D.D.G.M.

REPUBLICAN, Greenfield (1795).	ORANGE, Orange (1860).
HARMONY, Northfield (1796).	HOPE, Gardner, (1865).
PACIFIC, Amherst (1801).	STAR, Athol (1865).
MOUNTAIN, Shelburne Falls (1806).	ARTISAN, Winchenden (1866).
BETHEL, Enfield (1825).	

DISTRICT No. IX. (PITTSFIELD.)

R.W. HENRY CHICKERING, OF PITTSFIELD, D.D.G.M.

EVENING STAR, Lee (1795).	MYSTIC, Pittsfield (1810).
CINCINNATUS, G. Barrington (1795).	MOUNT MORIAH, Westfield (1856).
LAFAYETTE, North Adams (1796).	BERKSHIRE, South Adams (1858).
WISDOM, West Stockbridge (1808).	HUNTINGTON, Huntington (1867).

DISTRICT No. X. (SPRINGFIELD.)

R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, OF NORTHAMPTON, D.D.G.M.

THOMAS, Palmer (1796).	DAY SPRING, Monson (1868).
JERUSALEM, Northampton (1797).	HAYDEN, Brookfield (1868).
HAMPDEN, Springfield (1817).	ROSWELL LEE, Springfield (1868).
CHICOPEE, Chicopee (1848).	EDEN, Ware (1865).
MOUNT TOM, Holyoke (1850).	IONIC, East Hampton (U.D.).
QUABOAG, Warren (1859).	

DISTRICT No. XI. (WORCESTER.)

R.W. A. A. BURDITT, OF CLINTON, D.D.G.M.

MORNING STAR, Worcester (1793).	WILDER, Leominster (1860.)
MOUNT ZION, Barre (1800).	DORIC, Hudson (1864).
TRINITY, Clinton (1858).	NORTH STAR, Ashland (1865).
MONTACUTE, Worcester (1859).	ATHELSTANE, Worcester (1866).
UNITED BRETHREN, Marlboro' (1860).	ST. BERNARD, Southboro' (U.D.).
QUINERBAUG, Southbridge (1860).	

DISTRICT No. XII. (MILFORD.)

R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER, OF MILFORD, D.D.G.M.

MONTGOMERY, Milford (1797).	WEBSTER, Webster (1859).
OLIVE BRANCH, Sutton (1797).	OXFORD, Oxford (1860).
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, Uxbridge (1818).	JOHN WARREN, Hopkinton (1861).
FRANKLIN, Grafton (1852.)	MOUNT HOLLIS, Holliston (1865).
BLACKSTONE RIVER, Blackstone (1856.)	SILOAM, Westboro' (1867).
	EXCELSIOR, Franklin (1867).

DISTRICT No. XIII. (TAUNTON.)

R.W. J. MASON EVERETT, OF CANTON, D.D.G.M.

BRISTOL, Attleboro' (1797).	ST. JAMES, Mansfield (1865).
KING DAVID, Taunton (1798).	ALFRED BAYLIES, Taunton (1866).
RISING STAR, Stoughton (1799).	HYDE PARK, Hyde Park (1866).
ST. ALBAN'S, Foxboro' (1818).	IONIC, Taunton (1867).
ORIENT, South Dedham (1862).	PAUL DEAN, N. Easton (U.D.).
BLUE HILL, Canton (1864).	

DISTRICT No. XIV. (NEW BEDFORD.)

R.W. ROBERT C. BROWN, OF FALL RIVER, D.D.G.M.

MARINE, Falmouth (1798).	PYTHAGORIAN, Marion (1863).
STAR IN THE EAST, New Bedford (1823).	PIONEER, Somerset (1864).
MOUNT HOPE, Fall River (1824).	MAYFLOWER, Middleboro' (1865).
EUREKA, New Bedford (1858).	KING PHILIP, Fall River, (1866).
MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Tisbury (1860).	ORIENTAL, Edgartown (1867).

DISTRICT NO. XV. (BARNSTABLE.)

R. W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, JR., OF DENNISPORT, D.D.G.M.

UNION, Nantucket (1771).	DE WITT CLINTON, Sandwich (1856).
KING HIRAM, Provincetown (1796).	PILGRIM, South Harwich (1860).
FRATERNAL, Hyannis (1801).	JAMES OTIS, Barnstable (1866).
SOCIAL HARMONY, Wareham (1823).	ADAMS, Wellfleet (1866).
Mt. HOREB, West Harwich (1855).	

DISTRICT NO. XVI. (PLYMOUTH.)

R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL, OF WEYMOUTH, D.D.M.G.

OLD COLONY, Hingham (1792).	PLYMOUTH, Plymouth (1825).
FELLOWSHIP, Bridgewater (1797).	PAUL REVERE, North Bridgewater (1857).
RURAL, Quincy (1801).	JOHN CUTLER, Abington (1860).
CORNER STONE, Duxbury (1803).	KONOHASSETT, Cohasset (1866).
NORFOLK UNION, Randolph (1819).	
ORPHAN'S HOPE, Weymouth (1825).	

GEORGE H. KENDALL, DEPUTY FOR CHILI, S.A.

BETHESDA, Valparaiso, South America (1854).	HIRAM OF COPIAPO, Copiapo, Chili, S.A. (1858).
---------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------

T. B. EAMES, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR CHINA.

ANCIENT LANDMARK OF HONG QUE, Shanghai (1864).

RICHARD H. HARTLEY, LIMA, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR PERU.

J. L. HUTCHINSON LODGE, At Arica.

COLOMBIA.—ISTHMUS LODGE, at Panama.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

PERMANENT MEMBERS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Past Grand Masters.

SIMON W. ROBINSON	5845.
RT. REV. GEORGE M. RANDALL, D.D.	5851.
WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	5854.
JOHN T. HEARD	5857.
WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	5861.
WILLIAM PARKMAN	5863.

Past Deputy Grand Masters.

ABRAHAM A. DAME	5832.
GEORGE G. SMITH,	5837.
REV. E. M. P. WELLS, D.D.	5844.
REV. LUCIUS R. PAIGE, D.D.	5851.
ABRAHAM T. LOW, M.D.	5854.
CHARLES R. TRAIN	5859.
J. V. C. SMITH, M.D.	5860.
G. W. WARREN	5861.
MARSHALL P. WILDER	5862.
CHARLES C. DAME	5863.
SERENO D. NICKERSON	5866.
NEWELL A. THOMPSON	5867.

Past Senior Grand Wardens.

THOMAS TOLMAN	5840.
DANIEL HARWOOD, M.D.	5853.
RICHARD S. SPOFFORD, M.D.	5854.
WILLIAM C. PLUNKETT	5855.
BRADFORD L. WALES, M.D.	5857.
HENRY GODDARD	5858.
LORENZO H. GAMWELL	5859.
JOEL SPALDING, M.D.	5860.
WILLIAM NORTH	5861.
HENRY CHICKERING	5862.
WILLIAM W. BAKER	5863.
WILLIAM S. GARDNER	5864.
WENDELL T. DAVIS	5865.
WILLIAM SUTTON	5866.
SAMUEL P. OLIVER	5867.

Past Junior Grand Wardens.

THOMAS POWER	5843.
JOHN HEWS	5844.
WILLIAM EATON	5851.
JOHN FLINT, M.D.	5852.
JONAS A. MARSHALL, M.D.	5854.
SAMUEL K. HUTCHINSON	5855.
JOHN H. SHEPPARD	5857.
ISAAC HULL WRIGHT	5858.
CHARLES ROBBINS	5859.
PETER C. JONES	5862.
DANIEL REYNOLDS	5863.
BENJAMIN DEAN	5864.
SOLON THORNTON	5865.
WYZEMAN MARSHALL	5866.
HENRY MÜLLIKEN	5867.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ADDRESS:
SOLON THORNTON,
Boston, Mass.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

OF

Free and Accepted Masons,

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

IN UNION WITH THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN
EUROPE AND AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS.

From March 11 to Dec. 29, 1868;

BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME, GRAND MASTER.

R.W. SOLON THORNTON, GRAND SECRETARY.

Ordered to be Read in all the Lodges.

BOSTON:

PRINTED BY EDWARD S. COOMBS.

1869.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

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OF

Free and Accepted Masons,

OF THE

Freemasons -

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. -

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PRINTED BY EDWARD S. COOMBS.

1869.

1870, April 1.
Gift of
Wm. L. Gardner,
of Boston.

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QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION, Sept. 9, A.L. 5868

Officers present	
Lodges represented	
Petitions for Charter		
Mizpah Lodge	. . . . .
St. Bernard's Lodge	. . . . .
Ionic Lodge	. . . . .
Report of Committee on Expulsion of Br. C. D. Ball	. . . . .
Report of Committee on Charter for		
Ionic Lodge	. . . . .
Mizpah Lodge	. . . . .
St. Bernard's Lodge	. . . . .
Committee appointed to prepare a statement of present indebted-		
ness	. . . . .

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, Dec. 9, A.L. 5868

Officers present	. . . . .
Roll of Lodges called	. . . . .
Expulsion of Br. E. M. Littlefield	. . . . .
Annual Address of Grand Master	. . . . .
Limitation of the term of office	. . . . .
Board of Directors	. . . . .
Business of the year	. . . . .
Death of Brothers Power and Robinson	. . . . .
Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia	. . . . .
Initiates and Members	. . . . .
State of the debt, etc.	. . . . .
Capitation Tax	. . . . .
Delinquent Lodges	. . . . .
Conclusion	. . . . .
Resolutions on the decease of R.W. Br. Simon W. Robinson	. . . . .
Resolutions on the decease of R.W. Br. Thomas Power	. . . . .
Petition signed by Lewis Hayden	. . . . .
Election of Officers	. . . . .

STATED COMMUNICATION, Dec. 29, A.L. 5868

Officers present	
Introduction of Grand Master elect for Installation	

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ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS.

Abstract of Proceedings

OF

THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

MARCH 11, A.L. 5868.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, Wednesday, March 11, A.L. 5868.

P R E S E N T :

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. GEORGE H. TABER	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
W. REV. JOHN W. DADMUN, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. JOHN P. ROBINSON, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. ARTHUR CHENEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. BENJAMIN LEWIS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, }	
W. JOSHUA A. STEARNS, }	
W. CHARLES J. F. SHERMAN, }	Grand Pursuivants.
W. WILLIAM WRIGHT, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE	Grand Lecturer.
Br. HOWARD M. DOW	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER	District No. 2.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 6.
R.W. CHARLES W. KIMBALL	District No. 7.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District No. 8.
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District No. 11.
R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT	District No. 13.
R.W. ROBERT C. BROWN	District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr.	District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	District No 16

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. SIMON W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	" "
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" "
R.W. LUCIUS R. PAIGE, D.D.	Past Deputy Grand Master
R.W. GEORGE W. WARREN	" " " "
R.W. MARSHALL P. WILDER	" " " "
R.W. THOMAS TOLMAN	Past Grand Warden.
R.W. BRADFORD L. WALES, M.D.	" " "
R.W. JOEL SPAULDING, M.D.	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM NORTH	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	" " "
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	" " "
R.W. JOHN H. SHEPPARD	" " "
R.W. ISAAC HULL WRIGHT	" " "
R.W. WYZENAN MARSHALL	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at two o'clock, P.M. Prayer was offered by the Senior Grand Chaplain, W. Br. Rev. John W. Dadmun. The record of the last communication was read.

R.W. Br. William F. Salmon was recognized as Proxy for Ancient Landmark Lodge, Shanghai, China; W. Br.

F. Tolman for Rising Star Lodge, Stoughton;
 Michael J. Doak for Philanthropic Lodge of Marble-

ing Petitions for Charters were received :—

ZETLAND LODGE.

Boston, March 11, 1868.

Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

signed having been working under Dispensation since
 57, by the name of Zetland Lodge, hereby submit our
 By-Laws for approval of the M.W. Grand Lodge,
 fully petition for a Charter and to be constituted a
 e of Free and Accepted Masons.

JOHN W. DADMUN.	M. M. FULLER.
A. F. CHAPMAN.	W. F. ROBINSON.
JOHN F. ARBOT.	JOHN H. CHESTER.
WILLIAM H. SAMPSON.	PETER RIPLEY.
J. MCINTIRE.	STEPHEN D. HILBERN.
T. M. JACKSON.	THEODORE B. HAPGOOD.
GEORGE R. ROGERS.	N. HAMILTON.
WESTON LEWIS.	ROBERT H. CARLTON.
ARTHUR CHENEY.	TIMOTHY W. RAY.
J. N. M. CLOUGH.	SAMUEL FORD.
H. W. VINAL.	E. W. HASTINGS.
WILLIAM PRATT, Jr.	CHARLES H. ALMY.
A. R. COOLIDGE.	GEORGE S. NOYES.
ASA H. CATON.	THOMAS WATERMAN, Jr.
C. E. BOSWORTH.	GEORGE S. BRYANT.
W. L. BONNEY.	EDWARD H. BARTON.

P. E. DOLLIVER.

ISAAC PARKER LODGE.

WALTHAM, March 11, A.L. 5868.

Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

nsation granted the undersigned, April 23, A.L. 5867,
 dge in the town of Waltham in this Commonwealth,
 of Isaac Parker Lodge, having expired, the Records
 s are herewith submitted, and we would respectfully

request that a Charter may be issued and the Lodge regularly constituted.

AMBROSE WEBSTER.	EDWARD B. BAILEY.
HENRY N. FISHER.	LEONARD GREENE.
CHARLES MOORE.	MARTIN THOMAS.
JOHN HARRIS.	CHARLES S. BURNHAM.
WILLIAM H. GRAVES.	JAMES P. KIDDER.
LAROF BROWNE.	JOSEPH HARDING.
FRANCIS P. PRATT.	CHAUNCEY HARTWELL.
JOHN E. WHITCOMB.	FRANCIS H. EATON.
	CHARLES H. MANN.

WILLIAM NORTH LODGE.

LOWELL, March 11, 1868.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts.

The undersigned petitioners, being Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons and members of William North Lodge, under Dispensation, herewith submit a statement of their doings during the year of dispensation, and pray that a Charter of Constitution be granted them, to empower them to assemble as a legal Lodge to discharge the duties of Masonry, in a regular and constitutional manner according to the original forms of the Order and the regulations of the Grand Lodge.

HIRAM N. HALL.	JOHN C. BLOOD.
THEODORE ADAMS.	WILLIAM WALKER.
ATWILL F. WRIGHT.	MILO G. HALLETT.
GEORGE F. SCRIBNER.	CHARLES R. KIMBALL.
HENRY B. FISKE.	O. A. BRIGHAM.
ALONZO K. LYNCH.	JAMES D. FOOTE.
ALBERT F. NICHOLS.	IRVIN A. FOOTE.
LORIN ALDRICH.	MERRILL S. WRIGHT.
C. E. A. BARTLETT.	JOHN W. ABBOTT.
J. J. C. BROWNE.	JONATHAN RICE.
A. C. PERSONS.	C. R. CASWELL.
WEARE CLIFFORD.	A. Y. CASWELL.
GEORGE E. PINKHAM.	H. B. BACON.
J. A. RICHARDSON.	A. B. WRIGHT.
SAMUEL HYDE.	JAMES DEAN.
J. C. WOODWARD.	LUTHER RICHARDS.
EDWIN LAMSON.	DANIEL W. HORNE.
E. A. THIBSEL.	CRAWFORD BURNHAM.
J. C. HALL.	ALDEN I. GIFFORD.

PAUL DEAN LODGE.

EASTON, March 11, 1868.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We the undersigned Master Masons, members of Paul Dean Lodge having worked the past year under a Dispensation, herewith make return of the same together with an attested transcript of all our proceedings and of the By-Laws adopted by us, and pray that a Charter may be issued and our Lodge regularly constituted.

GEORGE B. COGSWELL.	BENJ. G. BLAISDELL.
ALFRED PRATT.	GEO. G. WITHINGTON.
LEAVITT L. BERRY.	FRANCIS TILDEN.
EDWARD R. HAYWARD.	HIRAM A. MONK.
GEORGE BRETT.	NATH. H. TALBOT.
LEWIS H. SMITH.	ELIJAH P. SPOONER.
WILLIAM F. BALDWIN.	RICHARD P. WAITE.
DANIEL W. BURRELL.	N. B. DANA.
GEORGE BARROWS.	JOHN A. LYNCH.
JOHN B. KING.	MARTIN W. RIPLEY.
LUCIEN BONNET.	LEONARD SELEE.
WILLIAM H. FROST.	NATH. B. PHILLIPS.

The above Petitions were referred to R.W. Brothers William S. Gardner, William D. Coolidge, and Winslow Lewis.

The roll of Lodges was called and the following found to be represented :—

ST. JOHN'S (Boston).	BETHESDA.	PENTUCKET.
ST. ANDREW'S.	ST. PAUL'S.	ANCIENT YORK.
COLUMBIAN.	CORINTHIAN.	MT. HOREB (Woburn).
MOUNT LEBANON.	AMICABLE.	WINSLOW LEWIS.
BAALEBEC.	MONITOR.	JOSEPH WARREN.
KING SOLOMON'S.	PUTNAM.	HAMMATT.
STAR OF BETHLEHEM.	PHILANTHROPIC.	GOLDEN FLEECE.
MOUNT HERMON.	TYRIAN.	ROBERT LASH.
MIDDLESEX.	ESSEX.	LAFAYETTE.
WASHINGTON.	JORDAN.	PEQUOSSETTE.
UNION.	MERRIMAC.	MOUNT OLIVET.
MERIDIAN.	ST. MARK'S.	AMITY.

STARR KING.	SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.	DORIC.
JOHN T. HEARD.	BRISTOL.	ATHELSTANE.
ACACIA.	KING DAVID.	JOHN WARREN.
TUSCAN.	RISING STAR.	MOUNT HOLLIS.
SAGGAHEW.	ST. ALBAN'S.	ST. JAMES.
CHARLES C. DAME.	ORIENT.	ALFRED BAYLIES.
WILLIAM PARKMAN.	STAR IN THE EAST.	HYDE PARK.
KILWINNING.	MOUNT HOPE.	IONIC.
HOPE.	EUREKA.	PYTHAGORIAN.
MOUNT MORIAH.	FRATERNAL.	PIONEER.
THOMAS.	MOUNT HOREB (West	DE WITT CLINTON.
HAMPDEN.	Harwich).	PILGRIM.
CHICOPEE.	OLD COLONY.	JAMES OTIS.
TRINITY.	RURAL.	PLYMOUTH.
MONTACUTE.	NORFOLK UNION.	PAUL REVERE.
UNITED BRETHREN.	ORPHAN'S HOPE.	JOHN CUTLER.
MONTGOMERY.	ROSWELL LEE.	ANCIENT LANDMARK
OLIVE BRANCH.	WILDER.	OF HONG QUE.

The M.W. Grand Master announced to the Grand Lodge, that R.W. Br. John T. Heard, who was chosen a Director at the last Annual Communication had declined to accept the office, when, on motion of R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, it was voted to proceed to fill the vacancy in the Board of Directors caused by the declination of R.W. Br. Heard.

R.W. Brothers William W. Baker, Joel Spalding, and A. A. Burditt were appointed a committee to receive, sort, and count the votes. The result of the election was the choice of W. Br. Warren Fisher, Jr.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address was granted further time.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Zetland Lodge for a Charter, reported as follows : —

ZETLAND LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 11, 1868.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of certain Brethren of Boston, praying for a Charter under the name of Zetland Lodge, respectfully report, —

That they have examined the Record of the Petitioners while under Dispensation, and the By-Laws presented for approval.

The records are neatly and accurately kept with one exception. The Secretary has neglected to enter upon the Record the organization of the Lodge. A Record of a Masonic Lodge cannot be complete without it shows the names of the several brethren occupying the various offices. The Grand Lodge has already decided this question within the last few years, more than once.

In former times it was the custom to record the names of all present, members and visitors; and such is still the custom in many Lodges especially those of limited membership. The very large number of members and visitors, especially in the cities, has made it necessary to relax this old rule. But the necessity of recording the name of each officer present, and of the occupant of each official station *pro-tempore*, still exists.

The By-Laws have been amended in one or two sections. The appointing power of the Worshipful Master cannot be divided with the Wardens, as is contemplated in these regulations. This Grand Lodge has so decided frequently of late, and the Committee have stricken out this restriction upon the Master's right.

The By-Laws also declare that "the Sentinel shall attend the inner door under the direction of the Senior Warden."

The Worshipful Master alone has control of the ingress and egress of a brother after the Lodge is open.

The masonic method of gaining entrance to a Lodge, whether a member or visitor, is for the Tyler to send the name in through the Sentinel or Deacon, and obtain permission of the Worshipful Master before permitting the brother to pass. This custom is almost universal, and is in abeyance only in some of the large cities where our customs are sometimes violated from a supposed necessity. The Senior Warden has no control over the door of the Lodge, except when specially empowered by the Worshipful Master.

Your Committee congratulate the brethren of Zetland Lodge on the honored name which they have selected.

The Earl of Zetland, M.W. Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, has added lustre and honor to the Grand Lodge over which he has presided so many years with such distinguished ability, and this Grand Lodge with pride attaches his name to one of her subordinates, located in the city of Boston, where Masonry was first introduced upon this Continent by the warrant of one of his predecessors.

Your Committee recommend that a Charter be granted the petitioners.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

On motion of R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis the report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

WILLIAM NORTH LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 11, 1868.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of certain brethren of Lowell, praying to be chartered by the name of William North Lodge, respectfully report, —

That they find the Record of the Lodge while under dispensation to have been carefully and neatly kept, and in accordance with masonic usage.

The By-Laws have been amended in two particulars, and as amended your Committee recommend their approval.

They also recommend that a Charter be granted as prayed for.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

On motion of R.W. Br. William F. Salmon the report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

ISAAC PARKER LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 11, 1868.

Committee to whom was referred the Petition of certain
Waltham, praying for a Charter under the name of
Lodge, respectfully report, —

They have carefully examined the Records of the Lodge
for dispensation, and the By-Laws presented for approval.
Laws have been amended only in two particulars by
Committee.

Records do not show the names of the officers present, but
state that the "Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior
Treasurer, Secretary, Senior and Junior Deacons, and
are present.

Not in accordance with the requirements of Masonry, as
Committee have stated in another Report made to the Grand
day.

Committee recommend that a Charter be granted as

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.

WINSLOW LEWIS.

tion of R.W. Br. John McClellan the report was
and the recommendation adopted.

PAUL DEAN LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 11, 1868.

Committee to whom was referred the petition of certain
of Easton, praying to be chartered under the name
Dean Lodge, respectfully report, —

They have amended the By-Laws presented for approval
particulars, and as amended recommend that they be
by the Grand Lodge.

The Record of the brethren while under Dispensation is full and correct, and is a model of a proper Lodge record.

Your Committee recommend that a Charter be granted in conformity with the request of the Petitioners.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER
WINSLOW LEWIS
WILLIAM D. COLE

On motion of R.W. Br. James A. Fox the report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

The Committee to whom was referred a communication from King Solomon's Lodge, complaining of the initiation of Carroll Lodge, at Freedom, N.H., of persons residing within the jurisdiction of King Solomon's Lodge, made the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE, BOSTON, March 11,

The Committee to whom was referred a communication from King Solomon's Lodge representing that certain individuals residing in Charlestown, have obtained the degrees, of Masonry in another jurisdiction than that in which they reside, leave to report, —

That whereas such a course is subversive of all good discipline and dangerous to the safety and best interests of Freemasonry we do hereby recommend that the M.W. Grand Master be requested to communicate with the Grand Masters of other Lodges, and request them to unite with the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in adopting such measures as shall be necessary to prevent such irregularity, and thereby enhance the safety and beloved order.

C. PRESCOTT COLE
WYZEMAN MAJES
JOSIAH A. STEPHENS

tion of R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, the report was

was offered by W. Br. Rev. John P. Robinson,
Grand Chaplain, and the M.W. Grand Lodge of
ussetts was closed in Ample Form.



QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

JUNE 10, A.L. 5868.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M. W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, Wednesday, June 10, A.L. 5868.

P R E S E N T.

M. W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R. W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL <i>as</i>	Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R. W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. Rev. JOHN P. ROBINSON, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. ARTHUR CHENEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. JOSIAH H. STEARNS, }	
W. CHARLES J. F. SHERMAN	Grand Pursuivant.
W. IVORY H. POPE	Grand Lecturer.
Br. HOWARD M. DOW	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R. W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R. W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM	District No. 3.
R. W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	District No. 5.
R. W. CHARLES KIMBALL	District No. 7.
R. W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District No. 8.
R. W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
R. W. A. A. BURDITT	District No. 11.
R. W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District No. 12.
R. W. J. MASON EVERETT	District No. 13.
R. W. ROBERT C. BROWN	District No. 14.
R. W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr.	District No. 15.
R. W. Z. L. BICKNELL	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

W. ROBINSON	Past Grand Master.
OW LEWIS, M.D.	" " "
M D. COOLIDGE	" " "
AM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R. PAIGE, D.D.	" " " "
D. NICKERSON	" " " "
S. TOLMAN	Past Grand Warden.
M S. GARDNER	" " "
P. OLIVER	" " "
M SUTTON	" " "
L. WRIGHT	" " "
C. JONES	" " "

and Lodge was opened in Ample Form at two
 ., with prayer by W. Br. Rev. John W. Dadmun,
 and Chaplain. The record of the last Communi-
 read.

ceedings of Pentucket Lodge, against Br. Wil-
 news were presented for approval and referred to
 bers William S. Gardner, Joseph K. Baker, Jr.,
 Bicknell.

on of R.W. Br. William S. Gardner the Com-
 the Grand Master's Address was granted further

Charles Raymond was recognized as proxy for
 Lodge, at Plymouth, and Br. Levi Greene for
 lge, at Clinton.

owing Communication was received : —

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., April 22, 1868.

*Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Massa-
 chusetts.*

al Masonic Bodies of this city, having voted to cele-
 nning Anniversary of St. John's Day, invite their
 a abroad to unite with them on that occasion.

We address you at this time, extending the invitation to your Body to join with us in the festivities of the day, hoping that you will accept and be present with full ranks.

We pledge you a fraternal and cordial reception.

You will pardon the committee for urging that you give the subject early attention, and apprise us of your determination on or before the first week in June.

In your reply please give us, as nearly as possible, the number expected to be present, so that we may amply provide for all.

Fraternally yours.

GEORGE W. RAY, *Chairman.*

J. E. COOLIDGE, *Cor. Secretary.*

On motion of R.W. Br. Isaac H. Wright, R.W. Brothers Isaac H. Wright, Sereno D. Nickerson, and Abraham A. Dame, were appointed a committee to consider and report upon the subject of the Lodges located in the former city of Roxbury and their relations to the Lodges of the city of Boston, by the annexation of Roxbury to Boston.

R.W. Br. William S. Gardner, chairman of the committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Pentucket Lodge in the case of William Matthews, of Lowell, made the following Report :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Committee to whom was referred the Proceedings of Pentucket Lodge upon the expulsion of William Matthews of Lowell, respectfully report, —

That they find the proceedings of the Lodge to be regular, the charges sufficient and fully proved.

The accused was convicted of the crime of larceny before the courts of Middlesex County, was sentenced to the House of Correction for three years, and is now undergoing his sentence.

Committee recommend that the expulsion be confirmed
and the Lodge.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER.
J. K. BAKER, Jr.
Z. L. BICKNELL.

on, it was voted that the report be accepted and
recommendation adopted.

relating to the trial of a member of St. John's
Lodge, was received and referred to R.W. Brothers
Coolidge, Sereno D. Nickerson, James A. Fox,
and W. Br. Ira D. Davenport.

Following report was received : —

IN GRAND LODGE, June 10, 1868.

Committee appointed to consider and report upon the sub-
Lodges located in the former city of Roxbury, and their
the Lodges in the city of Boston, by the annexation of
Boston, respectfully report the following vote for the
the Grand Lodge, and that a copy of said vote, when
communicated to the Lodges interested.

that by the annexation of the city of Roxbury to
Lodges located in the former place, have become
located in Boston, and as such are entitled to all the
rights and privileges incident to that relation ; and the pro-
tection 5, of Article 3, Part 4, of the Constitutions of
the Grand Lodge, as to persons residing in one town or city
is a Lodge, being initiated in a Lodge of another
under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, no longer
relations between the Boston and former Roxbury

ISAAC H. WRIGHT.
S. D. NICKERSON.
A. A. DAME.

On motion of W. Br. Charles H. Titus, the report adopted and the vote passed.

The roll of Lodges was called and the following found to be represented :—

ST. JOHN'S (Boston).	ESSEX.	WILDER.
ST. ANDREW'S.	LIBERTY.	DORIC.
MASSACHUSETTS.	ASHLER.	ATHELSTANE.
COLUMBIAN.	STARR KING.	FRANKLIN.
MOUNT LEBANON.	MERRIMAC.	KING DAVID.
BAALBEC.	GRECIAN.	RISING STAR.
GERMANIA.	TUSCAN.	ST. ALBAN'S.
WINSLOW LEWIS.	SAGGAHEW.	ORIENT.
REVERE.	CHARLES C. DAME.	BLUE HILL.
JOSEPH WARREN.	PENTUCKET.	ST. JAMES.
HAMMATT.	ANCIENT YORK.	MOUNT HOPE.
ZETLAND.	MOUNT HOREB (West Harwich).	EUREKA.
MOUNT CARMEL.	WILLIAM PARKMAN.	MAYFLOWER.
MOUNT HERMON.	KILWINNING.	MOUNT HOREB (Woburn).
WILLIAM SUTTON.	MOUNTAIN.	DE WITT CL.
MIDDLESEX.	HOPE.	PILGRIM.
WASHINGTON.	EVENING STAR.	JAMES OTIS.
ST. PAUL'S.	HAMPDEN.	OLD COLONY.
LAFAYETTE.	QUABOAG.	RURAL.
ADELPHI.	HAYDEN.	ORPHAN'S H.
AMICABLE.	ROSWELL LEE.	PLYMOUTH.
MONITOR.	EDEN.	PAUL REVER.
PUTNAM.	IONIC.	JOHN CUTLER.
PEQUOSSETTE.	MONTACUTE.	ANCIENT LA.
BELMONT.		
ISAAC PARKER.	UNITED BRETHREN.	

Prayer was offered by the Junior Grand Chaplain
Rev. John P. Robinson, and the Grand Lodge was
Ample Form.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION,

SEPTEMBER 9, A.L. 5868.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE
 MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston,
 Monday, September 9, A.L. 5868.

P R E S E N T :

WILLIAM C. DAME	Grand Master.
WILLIAM W. MOORE	Deputy Grand Master.
H. WRIGHT, <i>as</i>	Senior Grand Warden.
W. H. TABER	Junior Grand Warden.
W. THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
W. P. ROBINSON	Grand Chaplain.
W. WRIGHT, <i>as</i>	Grand Marshal.
W. PERKINS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. STEARNS, }	
J. F. SHERMAN	Grand Pursuivant.
W. POPE	Grand Lecturer.
M. DOW	Grand Organist.
GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

P. CHEEVER	District No. 2.
W. ENDICOTT	District No. 4.
W. H. PEIRSON	District No. 5.
W. KIMBALL	District No. 7.
W. CRAFTS	District No. 10.
W. EVERETT	District No. 13.
W. C. BROWN	District No. 14.
W. BICKNELL	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

W. LEWIS, M.D.	Past Grand Master.
W. D. COOLIDGE	" " "
W. WELLS, D.D.	Past Deputy Grand Master.
W. R. PAIGE, D.D.	" " "
W. D. NICKERSON	" " "
W. A. THOMPSON	" " "
W. SUTTON	Past Grand Warden.
W. P. OLIVER	" " "

LODGES REPRESENTED.

ST. ANDREW'S.	LAFAYETTE.	KING DAVID.
COLUMBIAN.	PEQUOSSETTE.	RISING STAR.
MOUNT TABOR.	MOUNT OLIVET.	ORIENT.
WINSLOW LEWIS.	LIBERTY.	ST. JAMES.
REVERE.	STARR KING.	HYDE PARK.
JOSEPH WARREN.	JOHN T. HEARD.	IONIC.
ABERDOUR.	GRECIAN.	STAR IN THE EAST.
ELEUSIS.	ANCIENT YORK.	EUREKA.
ZETLAND.	Mt. HOREB (Woburn).	Mt. HOREB (W. F.)
KING SOLOMON'S.	MOUNT MORIAH.	RURAL.
MOUNT HERMON.	HUNTINGTON.	NORFOLK UNION.
WASHINGTON.	CHICOPEE.	ORPHAN'S HOPE.
ST. PAUL'S.	ROSWELL LEE.	PLYMOUTH.
GATE OF THE TEMPLE.	MORNING STAR.	PAUL REVERE.
DALHOUSIE.	DORIC.	KONOHASSETT.
	ATHELSTONE.	

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at 2 P.M., with prayer, by the Grand Chaplain, Rev. B. P. Robinson. The record of the last Communication read.

The following Petitions for Charters were received and referred to R.W. Brothers William D. Coolidge, Kimball, and Tracy P Cheever.

MIZPAH LODGE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We, the undersigned, petitioners of Mizpah Lodge, U.D. have been working under a Dispensation granted us in September 1887, and now beg leave to return the same, together with the Returns of our proceedings, the Returns, and a copy of our By-Laws. We found worthy, we respectfully pray that a Charter be granted us, and that we be constituted at such time as may suit the convenience of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

HENRY ENDICOTT.	THOS. L. SMITH.
GEORGE H. FOLGER.	SAML. L. MONTAGUE.
GEO. P. CARTER.	EDWARD T. NICHOLS.

SEYMOUR BYRON SNOW.	SIMEON SNOW.
GEORGE E. RYDER.	LEANDER GREELY.
JOSEPH CHILD, Jr.	JOHN STONE.
J. DWINAL NUTTING.	JAMES A. WOOLSON.
AUG. R. BAYLEY.	DANL. U. CHAMBERLIN.
CALEB C. ALLEN.	C. A. SAWYER.
S. M. DAVIS.	P. FRANCIS WELLS.
JOS. G. HOLT.	WINSLOW LEWIS BOWKER.
F. A. KENNEDY.	ENOS B. PHILLIPS.
WILLIAM PAGE.	DANIEL H. THURSTON.

Aug. 31, 1868.

ST BERNARD’S LODGE.

Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the State of Massachusetts.

undersigned, being Master Masons of good standing
y the prosperity of the Craft at heart, having petitioned
ceived a Dispensation, dated Sept. 6, 1867, and having
e year under said Dispensation, complying with all
regulations of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,
most respectfully ask and pray, that we, with such
ay hereafter join us, may be erected and constituted
lar chartered Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons,
itle and designation of St. Bernard’s Lodge of South-
full power and authority to convene as Masons, and
l matters relating to Masonry which may appear to be
od of the Craft, according to the ancient usages and
Masons.

yer of this petition being granted, we promise strict
to the commands of the Grand Master, and the laws
tions of the Grand Lodge.

JOHN BLAIR.	CALEB S. WILLIAMS.
L. W. NEWTON.	F. W. WALKER.
JOSEPH BURNETT.	LORENZO WALKER.
JOHN A. PAGE.	J. HENRY ROBINSON.
JOHN W. HAMMOND.	LEWIS BREWER.
SULLIVAN F. ONTHANK.	CURTIS NEWTON.

Sept. 7, 1868.

IONIC LODGE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We, the undersigned, Master Masons, to whom your Most Worshipful Grand Master issued a Dispensation, bearing date August, A.D. 1867, empowering us to form and open a Lodge, now, returning our Dispensation, with an attested Record of all our proceedings, and our By-Laws, respectfully pray, if these be approved, for a Charter of Constitution, empowering us, under the name of Ionic Lodge of East Hampton, to perform all the ceremonies and discharge all the duties, at said East Hampton, appertaining to Ancient Craft Masonry, which have not been reserved to the Grand Lodge.

LA FAYETTE CLAPP.	GILBERT A. CLARK.
WILLIAM G. BASSETT.	HENRY F. POMROY.
JOSEPH W. WILSON.	J. E. LAMBIE.
GEORGE S. CLARK.	B. W. HUTCHINSON.
J. W. WINSLOW.	ALBERT S. NEWTON.
JOHN MAYHER.	LEONARD H. PERKINS.
EDWIN F. WARD.	GEO. L. MANCHESTER.
J. H. BARDWELL.	F. A. RUST.
E. THOMAS SAWYER.	G. M. FILLEBROWN.
ALVAH MILLER.	GEO. H. SPRAGUE.
J. L. CAMPBELL.	WILLIAM STRATTON.
EMORY MUNTAN.	

EAST HAMPTON, Sept. 5, 1868.

Papers relating to the suspension of Br. Silas D. Bates, by North Star Lodge, from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, were received, and referred to R.W. Brs. Winslow Lewis, Sereno D. Nickerson, and George H. Peirson.

Papers relating to the expulsion of Br. C. D. Ball, of Chicopee Lodge, from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, were received, and referred to R.W. Br. Robert C.

Brown, W. Br. Henry P. Perkins, and R.W. Br. David W. Crafts.

The paper received at the last Communication relating to the trial of a member of St. John's Lodge, Boston, was by consent withdrawn, and the committee to whom it was referred, discharged.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address was granted further time.

The following report was received and adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 9, 1868.

The committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Chicopee Lodge of Chicopee, in the case of Br. C. D. Ball, of said Lodge, have examined the testimony and proceedings in said case, and find the same to be regular and in accordance with masonic law, and recommend that the action of the Lodge be confirmed.

R. C. BROWN.

H. P. PERKINS.

D. W. CRAFTS.

The committee to whom was referred the proceedings of North Star Lodge, relating to the suspension of Br. Silas D. Bates, from the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, were granted further time.

On motion of W. Br. Charles H. Titus, the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars was appropriated to be placed in the hands of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, for charitable purposes.

The committee to whom was referred the Petitions for Charters, made the following reports : —

IONIC LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 9, 1868.

The committee to whom was referred the application for a Lodge at East Hampton by the name of Ionic Lodge, ask leave to report, —

That they find the By-Laws in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge. The Records are full and correct.

The committee congratulate the brethren on their success and prospects. They are evidently among those where great masonic interest is felt, having held sixty-two meetings during the term of their Dispensation, and admitted thirty-three candidates.

Feeling great confidence in the prudence and discretion of the brethren, the committee recommend that a Charter be issued to them in conformity to their application.

WM. D. COOLIDGE.

CHARLES KIMBALL.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

On motion of R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, the report was accepted, and the recommendation adopted.

MIZPAH LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 9, A.L. 5868.

The committee appointed to examine the Records, Proceedings, and By-Laws of Mizpah Lodge, Cambridge, under Dispensation, have attended to the duty assigned them, and report, —

That upon a careful examination, it appears that all the proceedings of the Lodge while under Dispensation have been regular; that the By-Laws are in conformity with the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and the Records have been properly and neatly kept. Wherefore, your committee recommend a Charter be granted in conformity with the prayer of the petitioners.

WM. D. COOLIDGE.

CHARLES KIMBALL.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

tion of R.W. Br. J. Mason Everett, the report was
and the recommendation adopted.

ST. BERNARD'S LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 9, 1868.

Committee to whom was referred the application of St.
Lodge of Southboro' for a Charter, have examined the
s of the brethren while under Dispensation, and re-
report, —

They find the Records fully and neatly kept. The code
s which has been submitted, appears not to be strictly
nce with the regulations of the Grand Lodge; but
alterations are made as are suggested by the committee,
receive the approval of the Grand Master, they recom-
a Charter be issued to the petitioners.

WM. D. COOLIDGE.

CHARLES KIMBALL.

tion of W. Br. Ivory H. Pope, the report was ac-
l the recommendation adopted.

tion of R.W. Br. Isaac H. Wright, R.W. Brothers
Nickerson, Isaac H. Wright, and William D.
were appointed a committee to prepare and present
sters and Wardens of the Lodges throughout the
n of the Grand Lodge, a statement of the present
ess, and to urge the importance of an earnest and
ort for its reduction.

and Master announced that the brethren who had
ne degrees since the last annual return was made,
mutate their tax to the Grand Lodge by paying nine

dollars each. In this announcement the Grand Lodge concurred.

Prayer was offered by W. Br. Rev. John P. Robinson, Junior Grand Chaplain, and the M.W. Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.



ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

DECEMBER 9, A.L. 5868.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, on Wednesday, December 9, A.L. 5868.

PRESENT.

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. GEORGE H. TABER	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Cor. Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. Rev. JOHN P. ROBINSON, }	
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. ARTHUR CHENEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. BENJAMIN LEWIS	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS, }	Grand Stewards.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS, }	
W. JOSIAH H. STEARNS, }	
W. E. W. BURE, }	Grand Standard-Bearer.
W. MOSES H. FOWLER	
W. CHARLES J. F. SHERMAN, }	
W. WILLIAM WRIGHT, }	Grand Pursuivants.
W. E. D. BANCROFT, }	
W. L. H. GAMWELL, }	
W. IVORY H. POPE }	Grand Lecturers.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	
	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. JAMES A. FOX	District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER	District No. 2.
R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM	District No. 3.
R.W. HENRY ENDICOTT	District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 6.

R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL	District
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	District
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	District
R.W. A. A. BURDITT	District
R.W. HENRY C. SKINNER	District
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT	District
R.W. ROBERT C. BROWN	District
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, JR.	District
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	District

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	Past Grand Master.		
R.W. JOHN T. HEARD	"	"	"
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	"	"	"
R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	"	"	"
R.W. LUCIUS R. PAIGE, D.D.	Past Deputy Grand		
R.W. CHARLES R. TRAIN	"	"	"
R.W. G. WASHINGTON WARREN	"	"	"
R.W. SERENO D. NICKERSON	"	"	"
R.W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	"	"	"
R.W. BRADFORD L. WALES, M.D.	Past Grand Warden		
R.W. HENRY GODDARD	"	"	"
R.W. LORENZO H. GAMWELL	"	"	"
R.W. JOEL SPAULDING, M.D.	"	"	"
R.W. WILLIAM NORTH	"	"	"
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	"	"	"
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	"	"	"
R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER	"	"	"
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	"	"	"
R.W. SAMUEL K. HUTCHINSON	"	"	"
R.W. ISAAC H. WRIGHT	"	"	"
R.W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL	"	"	"

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at 8 o'clock, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain, W. Br. John W. Dadmun. The record of the last Communion was read.

The roll of Lodges was called and the following found to be represented :—

s (Boston).	AMITY.	WILDER.
EW'S.	STARR KING.	DORIC.
SETTS.	ACACIA.	NORTH STAR.
N.	ST. JOHN'S (Newbury-	ATHELSTANE.
EBANON.	port).	ST. BERNARD'S.
ABOR.	MERRIMAC.	MONTGOMERY.
	ST. MARK'S.	OLIVE BRANCH.
	WARREN.	WEBSTER.
LEWIS.	ST. MATTHEW'S.	OXFORD.
	GRECIAN.	JOHN WARREN.
ARREN.	TUSCAN.	SILOAM.
R.	SAGGAHEW.	EXCELSIOR.
	CHARLES C. DAME.	KING DAVID.
OMON'S.	ST. PAUL'S (Groton).	RISING STAR.
ARMEL.	AURORA.	ST. ALBAN'S.
BETHLEHEM.	PENTUCKET.	ORIENT.
ERMON.	ANCIENT YORK.	ST. JAMES.
	MOUNT HOREB	ALFRED BAYLIES.
	(Woburn).	HYDE PARK.
ERNON.	CALEB BUTLER.	IONIC (Taunton).
PRICE.	WILLIAM PARKMAN.	PAUL DEAN
SUTTON.	KILWINNING.	STAR IN THE EAST.
LASH.	WILLIAM NORTH.	MOUNT HOPE.
X.	REPUBLICAN.	EUREKA.
TON.	PACIFIC.	MAYFLOWER.
	ORANGE.	KING HIRAM.
	HOPE.	FRATERNAL.
	ARTISAN.	SOCIAL HARMONY.
(Brighton).	CINCINNATUS.	MOUNT HOREB (West
S.	LAFAYETTE (South	Harwich).
THE TEMPLE.	Adams).	PILGRIM.
E.	MYSTIC.	JAMES OTIS.
E (Boston	MOUNT MORIAH.	ADAMS.
ds).	BERKSHIRE.	OLD COLONY.
	THOMAS.	FELLOWSHIP.
AN.	JERUSALEM.	RURAL.
	HAMPDEN.	CORNER STONE.
	CHICOPEE.	NORFOLK UNION.
	MOUNT TOM.	ORPHAN'S HOPE.
TTE.	QUABOAG.	PLYMOUTH.
BOT.	HAYDEN.	PAUL REVERE.
LIVET.	ROSWELL LEE.	JOHN CUTLER.
	IONIC (East Hampton).	KONOHASSETT.
RKER.	MORNING STAR.	BETHESDA (Valparaiso,
	TRINITY.	S.A.).
	MONTACUTE.	ANCIENT LANDMARK
	UNITED BRETHREN.	(Shanghae).

Rev. Br. Charles H. Titus was recognized as proxy for King David's Lodge, Taunton, and Br. William J. Merriam for Aurora Lodge of Fitchburg.

Papers relating to the expulsion of Br. E. M. Littlefield, of Saggaheew Lodge of Haverhill, and H. W. Loomis and W. D. Gardner, of Jerusalem Lodge of Northampton, were received and referred to R.W. Brothers Tracy P Cheever, L. H. Gamwell, and George H. Peirson.

Proceedings in case of North Star Lodge against Silas D. Bates were received and referred to the same committee.

The M.W. Grand Master delivered the following —

A D D R E S S.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE, — The Annual Communication, or, as in the present case, the closing of one administration and the beginning of another, must always be an occasion of more than ordinary interest to this Grand Lodge. It is the season when the responsible officers are required to render an account of their stewardship for the past year, and when the Body itself is called upon to inaugurate those measures the result of which is to affect, favorably or otherwise, the future welfare and prosperity of the whole Fraternity of the jurisdiction.

LIMITATION OF THE TERM OF OFFICE.

And it was doubtless this consideration that induced our predecessors, soon after the union of the two Grand Lodges of this Commonwealth, in 1792, to indicate and limit what should constitute the ministerial term or administration of its principal elective officers. It was, doubtless, also, with this view that they declared by constitutional enactment, that the Grand Master and the Grand Wardens should neither of them be eligible for election to the same office for more than three successive years.

not indeed absolutely determine the exact length of time
ers should hold their places — as in the case of the
of the United States — or they would otherwise have so
On the contrary, they wisely reserved to themselves
to terminate their official relations as occasion or the
of the Body might seem to demand. It is plain, how-
their intention was to indicate three years as the full
a “administration;” when a change of the Grand
his Wardens should take place, or when (the remain-
, with two exceptions, holding their places by appoint-
entire change of the organization would follow as a
e — not absolutely, but legally. And this was the
working of the system until about the year 1842, when
resentation in the Grand Lodge had been so far
the persecution out of which it was then just emerg-
the attendance was thought to be too small for its require-
l in order to increase this, and strengthen its working
was deemed to be wise to depart from the ancient
ar as to terminate the service of the Wardens at the
e first year of their election : thus giving two additional
members annually to the Grand Lodge. This was
y at the time an advisable and perhaps a necessary
But whether, now that the necessity in which it origi-
onger exists, its continuance is either wise or expedi-
e worthy of consideration.

experience teaches me that a too frequent change in
rtant offices is not, in view of the increased importance
ications of the business of the Grand Lodge, and the
gement of its large property, desirable ; and this doubt
lly strengthened by the fact that these officers are
members of the Board of Directors, to whose care and
the highest interests of the Grand Lodge are intrusted,
ought not therefore to be exposed to the uncertainties
quent changes in its organization. Past experience
a lesson in this respect which we may profit by if we

will. And this leads me to suggest whether the present constitution may not be advantageously improved, secure to it the services of a larger number of members, whose past experience and knowledge could be made available in the transaction of its business.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

There is another suggestion in this connection which has come to my mind, that may be worthy of consideration and referred to it in my last annual address. By the present provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the members of the Board of Directors must be annually elected from among the active officers or permanent members of this Body, or from among the Representatives of the Lodges. The practical operation of this requirement is to deprive the Grand Lodge of the services and the counsel of a class of men who avail itself of much of its most active and influential talent,—of the services and the counsel of a class of men whose age, experience, and business facilities, would add to the value of the Board of Directors. It would be of the highest value and importance in the management of the financial affairs of the corporation. I am not disregarding the probability that objections may be raised to the change suggested. But in a matter of such paramount importance, the preferences or aspirations are entitled to little consideration. A seat at the Board may be a desirable one, but it is one which you will excuse me for saying, every brother who may be called to occupy it, is not always he who is best adapted to discharge its duties. *And this is true, though not to the same extent in every office in the gift of the Grand Lodge.* Being the representative Body of the Fraternity in the State, it is the standard by which the character, social position, and respectability of the Order are estimated by the community. In filling its offices an important consideration cannot therefore be safely disregarded. But leaving the subject here, for such disposition as you may see fit entitled to, I proceed to lay before you a brief synopsis of the official proceedings for the past year.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR.

Visited Winslow Lewis Lodge, Boston.
Installed the officers of Essex Lodge, Salem.
Installed the officers of Social Harmony Lodge, Wareham.
Installed the officers of St. John's Lodge, Newburyport.
Constituted Paul Dean Lodge at North Easton, and installed
Constituted William North Lodge at Lowell, and installed its
Constituted Isaac Parker Lodge at Waltham, and installed its
Constituted Zetland Lodge at Boston, and installed its officers.
Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Beverly, and installed the officers of the new Lodge.
Granted Dispensation to Br. Edward Avery and thirty-five others, to be called Delta Lodge.
Granted Dispensation to Br. William H. Kent and ten others, to be called Faith Lodge.
Visited Mizpah Lodge at Cambridge, U.D.
Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Charlestown.
Constituted Ionic Lodge at East Hampton, and installed its
Constituted St. Bernard's Lodge at Southboro', and installed its
Constituted Mizpah Lodge at Cambridge, and installed its officers.
Visited St. Mark's Lodge at Newburyport.
Visited Grecian Lodge at Lawrence.
Installed the officers of Revere Lodge at Boston.
Dedicated a new Masonic Hall at Pittsfield.
Granted Dispensation to Br. George W. Peirce and thirteen others, to be called Palestine Lodge.
Granted Dispensation to Br. Morton B. Merrill and twenty-six others, to be called Bethany Lodge.

DEATH OF BROTHERS POWER AND ROBINSON.

During the past year two of our oldest permanent members were summoned to the Grand Lodge above.
Bro. Thomas Power, Past Junior Grand Warden and Secretary of this Grand Lodge, died at his residence in Framingham on the ninth day of October last.
Bro. Simon W. Robinson, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, died at his residence in Lexington on the sixteenth day of November last.

I have appointed R.W. Brothers Winslow Lewis, Past Grand Master, and Charles W. Moore, Deputy Grand Master, and William S. Gardner, Past Senior Grand Warden, a Committee to prepare suitable resolutions, to be entered upon our records of respect for the past services and eminent worth of these brethren.

GRAND LODGES OF NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA.

I have received communications from brethren, endeavoring to establish an independent Grand Lodge in Nova Scotia, and also in New Brunswick.

I am not aware that these brethren have yet succeeded in accomplishing their wishes in their respective Provinces, and I would caution this Grand Lodge to consider well the rights of all parties, as well as the great principles of our Order, before making themselves a party to the questions in issue between these brethren and their parent Grand Lodges. Sundry documents received by me, relating to this matter, accompany this address.

INITIATES AND MEMBERS.

There have been initiated during the past year, in the several Lodges under our jurisdiction, two thousand one hundred and seventy-four. The whole number of members on the first day of September last was eighteen thousand three hundred and sixty-seven. Number of chartered Lodges, 172; under Dispensation, 4.

There has been received from subordinate Lodges for the past year, through the R.W. D.D. Grand Masters, about \$27,000. Also, for commutation tax, about \$13,000.

STATE OF THE DEBT, ETC.

One year ago last July the debt of the Grand Lodge was about \$435,312.81. At the present time it is about \$375,000, showing a reduction in eighteen months of about \$60,000.

The floating debt at the present time is about \$116,000, as follows: \$10,600 due in 1870-71, \$40,000 due in February next, and \$65,500 on temporary notes given on four months.

rent expenses of the Grand Lodge for the past year reduced to the lowest possible amount, (about \$6,000,) little more than one half of some former years. The economy has been exercised on all occasions.

As seen from the foregoing statement, that a very large floating debt of the Grand Lodge still remains un-

It was my confident hope and expectation, when I addressed you on the subject, that I should at the present time be able to announce to you that this most embarrassing part of our debt had been at least so far removed as to cause no uneasiness, and that the only incumbrance upon the property was the amount secured by mortgage upon the property, which would be amply protected by the income from rents and other sources. In this, I am pained to say, I have been disappointed.

CAPITATION TAX.

Receipts from the capitation tax the past year have not been what they should have been. The Lodges, with some honorable exceptions, have not in this respect come up to their duty with the promptness and fidelity which their own high standing and the reputation of the Fraternity in this old jurisdiction imperatively demand. The consequence of this has been a large balance of this part of our debt has been carried forward by the temporary loans and on the individual responsibility of three or four of our affluent brethren, whose generous assistance has saved the credit of the Grand Lodge, and that of the jurisdiction, from humiliating mortification. To them we owe a debt of gratitude which mere words cannot repay.

The condition of things ought not, and cannot, be allowed to continue. The debt must be paid, and that without further delay. With little less than twenty thousand members, and one hundred and seventy-six Lodges in the jurisdiction, it is wholly inadvisable that the credit of the Grand Lodge should be held in

such jeopardy. To a Body like this, composed as it mostly is, of active business men, the sum required to meet all its immediate demands is insignificant. For the payment of this debt the faith of the Grand Lodge stands solemnly pledged upon its records, by a unanimous vote, and this pledge must be redeemed, or its business character irretrievably dishonored. The prompt payment of the paltry sum required by a commutation of the capitation tax, or the contribution of five dollars by each individual member whose name is borne upon our rolls, would immediately relieve the government of the Grand Lodge from the mortifying embarrassments under which they have been struggling for the last two years. Is it just, is it generous, is it honorable that this struggle should continue? I do not ask for individual contributions, but I do ask, in the name of the Grand Lodge, in vindication of its past honorable history, and in behalf of its endangered reputation for integrity, that the Lodges and the brethren all, throughout the Commonwealth, loving and honoring it as I know they do, will unitedly and of one accord, put their hands to the work, and relieve it of its pressing necessities and pending danger.

DELINQUENT LODGES.

In my last annual address, it became my duty to report the delinquency of two of the Lodges in the Ninth District, in refusing to comply with the order of the Grand Lodge imposing a capitation tax on its members. One of these Lodges has since so far discharged its obligations as a Lodge, in that particular, as to account for most of its members, but specially reporting twelve of its members, whose names are herewith submitted points as refusing to comply with the order. This refusal requires the immediate action of the Grand Lodge.

The other, Evening Star Lodge at Lee, has not only persisted in its recusancy, but, though frequently called upon by the Deputy for the District, and written to by your Grand Master, has treated the calls of the former with studied neglect, and the communica-

the latter with marked contempt. Such a defiance of the authority of the Grand Lodge, and insult to its official head, I consider it to be my duty to reprove with all the severity with which I am invested. I accordingly, (as authorized by the first of the eight articles of the Constitution,) on the 20th day of January, 1868, directed a mandamus to the R.W. Br. Henry Chickering, Grand Master for the District, commanding him to proceed to the demand of the Master and Wardens of said Lodge for the capitation tax on its members for the years 1867 and 1868, and on their further neglect or refusal to meet and against them, then and in that case, to suspend them until otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge. The exercise of this high power has been one of the most arduous of my official duties, but it was one which I was not under my official obligations, to decline. The act was an act of insubordination, and a denial of the authority of the Grand Lodge, which, if passed over in silence, would set a precedent ruinous to all masonic government. I wish to be able to add, however, that within a few days the D.D. Grand Master has reported that this Lodge has paid the capitation tax for 1867, and has made its returns for the amount of dues for the current year, and the mandamus is withdrawn without further process.

CONCLUSION.

Years since, you did me the honor to elect me to the office of Grand Master. I have held the place, and, I trust, not unworthily, performed its duties, for the entire term of my office. By our Constitutions, I am allowed to occupy it. To-day I come to you, with my grateful acknowledgments for the kindnesses and favors I have received while in the discharge of my official duties, and with assurances of my continued interest in the future welfare and prosperity of the Grand Lodge. My official labors have been arduous and responsible. They have fallen largely upon my time, and imposed upon me duties

such as will not probably be demanded of any of my successors. Whether these duties have been as acceptably performed as they might have been, is a question that can be determined only by those who are best acquainted with the nature and character of them. I only claim that they have received my best consideration and most earnest devotion. And although in dissolving my official connection with the Grand Lodge, I do not leave its fiscal affairs in so favorable a condition as I could have desired, yet it is most gratifying to me, as it should be encouraging to you, that I leave it in the possession of a large and increasingly valuable property, which, with careful management, will in a very few years, place it and every Lodge in the Commonwealth in a condition to carry out and accomplish more fully than ever before the great beneficent purposes of their existence. That this desirable result may follow, even earlier than the most sanguine among us dares now to anticipate; that your future may be free from personal animosity and party strife: that inordinate ambition for place or distinction may be unknown among you; that neither envy, nor jealousy, nor prejudice, nor false report, may be allowed to influence you; that subordination to the laws and respect for the constituted authorities of the Grand Lodge, may distinguish you; and that all your future proceedings may be characterised by unity of purpose, by fraternal kindness, and by that charity which "seeketh not her own," is my most ardent prayer.

On motion of R.W. Br. George W. Warren, the address was referred to R.W. Brothers George W. Warren, Charles W. Moore, and Charles Levi Woodbury.

R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, Chairman of the Committee appointed to draft and present resolutions on the decease of R.W. Br. Simon W. Robinson, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, presented the following, which were unanimously adopted, and a copy ordered to be sent to the family of the deceased: —

Another of the members of the former years, an active participant and sharer in the fortunes of this Grand Lodge in its days of trial, and who was spared to behold its uprise and prosperity, has attained his higher degree of immortality, — the great elevation from earth to heaven.

Our late Past Grand Master, SIMON WIGGIN ROBINSON, was one beloved and respected by his brethren; one not endowed by brilliant qualities of mind and education, but the possessor of a heart filled with useful and generous qualities. There is a natural tendency which we all feel, on occasions of this kind, to pass the limits of judicial accuracy in our tributes to the memory of those whom we honored and loved while living, and of whom we have been bereft. We do not scrupulously measure the words of kindness which flow from a full heart, struck with a personal and associated sorrow. I think, however, that I do not fall into this natural and pardonable error, when I say that, all things considered, we have lost one of the most faithful and kind brothers ever called to the chair of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

His masonic career and relations are known to us all, and need not to be recapitulated here. His characteristics for sterling good sense, fidelity, and truth are engraven on our hearts, and will be held in our memories. Let our records show that these are there engrossed, and, therefore, I move that the following resolution be entered in our annals and a copy transmitted to his family: —

Whereas it has pleased Divine Providence to remove from us our late beloved Past Grand Master, Simon Wiggin Robinson, —

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, in common with the officers and members of the subordinate Lodges of this jurisdiction, have sustained, by the decease of their late venerable associate, a loss of a devoted and faithful brother, whose life has been consecrated to the duties of the good man, brother, and citizen. A zealous friend and supporter of our Order in every department, whose amiable personal qualities and virtues endeared him to all, and constitute the character of a truly worthy man.

R.W. Br. William S. Gardner, in behalf of the committee appointed to present resolutions on the decease of R.W. Br. Thomas Power, a Past Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, offered the following, which was adopted, and a copy ordered to be sent to the family of the deceased : —

The Grand Lodge has again been called to mourn the loss of one who for many years has served the Craft in various positions of honor and responsibility. R.W. Br. THOMAS POWER has departed this life and gone the way of all the living upon the earth.

For years Grand Secretary, and after service in this important station, Senior Grand Warden, his memory should not be forgotten, although to the present generation his face was not familiar.

Our lamented brother found time amid the calls of a jealous profession to cultivate the virtues of Masonry in all its departments. He contributed to the Fraternity his "Melodies,"* which have introduced his name to almost every Lodge in the United States.

Kind, charitable, genial, and glowing with the purest sentiment, we inscribe upon the record this tribute to his memory.

The Auditing Committee made their report, which was accepted.

A petition, signed by Lewis Hayden and several others, claiming to be Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons, and asking to be recognized as such, was received, read, and, on motion of R.W. Br. John T. Heard, was referred to R.W. Brothers John T. Heard, George W. Warren, Bradford L. Wales, Isaac Hull Wright, Charles Levi Woodbury, Tracy P Cheever, and Charles W. Moore.

* The original MS. of which, in his own handwriting, is in the library of the Grand Lodge.

our fixed by the Constitution for the election of officers arrived, a return of the votes was made by the Marshal, from which it appeared that the whole number might be cast was four hundred and fifty-seven.

Grand Master appointed R.W. Brothers A. A. Bur-
K. Baker, Jr., and W. Br. C. J. F. Sherman, a com-
collect, sort, and count the votes for Grand Master.
committee reported the whole number of votes cast to be
dred and forty-one, of which four hundred and seven-
for R.W. Br. William Sewall Gardner, of Boston,
as declared elected Grand Master for the ensuing

and committee, consisting of R.W. Br. J. Mason
W. Br. Charles H. Norris, and W. Br. Ira D.
rt, were appointed to receive, sort, and count the
Senior Grand Warden. The committee reported
e number of votes cast to be four hundred and
ix, of which two hundred and ninety-five were for
r. Ithamar F. Conkey, of Amherst, and he was
elected Senior Grand Warden for the ensuing

committee appointed to receive, sort, and count the
Junior Grand Warden, reported the whole number
cast to be four hundred and two, of which number
Ivory H. Pope, of Boston, had two hundred and
e, and he was declared elected.

committee appointed to receive, sort, and count the
Grand Treasurer, reported that the whole number
two hundred and ninety, the whole number being

for R.W. Br. John McClellan, he was declared re-elected for the ensuing year.

The committee appointed to receive, sort, and count the votes for Recording Grand Secretary, reported the whole number cast to be two hundred and eighty-three, of which number R.W. Br. Solon Thornton had two hundred and eighty, and was declared re-elected.

R.W. Brothers William Sutton, Sereno D. Nickerson, W. Br. Percival L. Everett, W. Br. Warren Fisher, Jr., and R.W. Br. William F. Salmon were elected Directors.

R.W. Brothers Sereno D. Nickerson, Samuel P. Oliver, and William D. Coolidge were elected Auditing Committee.

The M.W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.



STATED COMMUNICATION,

DECEMBER 29, A.L. 5868.

A STATED COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, on Tuesday, December 29, A.L. 5868, for the Installation of its Officers.

P R E S E N T :

M.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	Junior Grand Warden, <i>pro tem</i> .
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES L. WOODBURY	Cor. Grand Secretary.
W. Rev. JOHN W. DADMUN	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM D. STRATTON	Grand Marshal.
W. ARTHUR CHENEY	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. WARREN FISHER, JR.	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. EDWARD STEARNS,	} Grand Stewards.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS,	
W. E. W. BURR,	
W. IVORY H. POPE	Grand Lecturer.
Br. HOWARD M. DOW	Grand Organist.
Br. C. C. WENTWORTH	Grand Chorister.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER	District No. 2.
R.W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM	District No. 8.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	District No. 6.
R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL	District No. 7.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	District No. 8.
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	District No. 9.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT	District No. 13.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, JR.	District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	District No. 16.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS	Past Grand Master.
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DANE	Past Deputy Grand
R.W. E. M. P. WELLS	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	Past Grand Warden
R.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	" " "
R.W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form o'clock, P.M., with prayer by the Grand Chaplain W. Rev. John W. Dadmun.

The M.W. Grand Master announced that M.W. T. Arthur Doyle, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Island, was in waiting to visit this Grand Lodge appointed R.W. Brothers E. M. P. Wells, William S. and Tracy P. Cheever, a committee to introduce Grand Master Doyle to the Grand Lodge, where he received with the honor due his high office.

The M.W. Grand Master informed the Grand Lodge this Communication was called, in accordance with the provisions of the Grand Constitutions for the Installation of Officers for the ensuing year.

The M.W. Grand Master appointed R.W. Brothers Winslow Lewis, William Sutton, E. M. P. Wells, Lemuel Bishop, and W. Br. James B. Pickett, a committee to introduce R.W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, Grand Master elect to Installation. The Grand Master elect was then introduced and installed into his office, and saluted by the brethren in Due and Ancient Form.

The M.W. Grand Master installed the elected officers as follows : —

R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY, Amherst . . .	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. IVORY H. POPE, Boston	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN, Boston	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON, Boston	Recording Grand Secretary.

The M.W. Grand Master made the following appointments :

R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY, Boston . .	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE, Boston	Cor. Grand Secretary.
R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH, Boston	D.D.G.M. District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER, Chelsea	D.D.G.M. District No. 2.
R.W. BENJAMIN POPE, South Boston . . .	D.D.G.M. District No. 3.
R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP, Brighton . . .	D.D.G.M. District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON, Salem	D.D.G.M. District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, Lawrence	D.D.G.M. District No. 6.
R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS, Lowell	D.D.G.M. District No. 7.
R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK, Orange	D.D.G.M. District No. 8.
R.W. DANIEL UPTON, South Adams	D.D.G.M. District No. 9.
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, Northampton . .	D.D.G.M. District No. 10.
R.W. CHARLES G. REED, Worcester	D.D.G.M. District No. 11.
R.W. GEORGE E. STACY, Milford	D.D.G.M. District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT, Canton	D.D.G.M. District No. 13.
R.W. JOHN A. LEE, New Bedford	D.D.G.M. District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr., Dennisport .	D.D.G.M. District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL, East Weymouth . .	D.D.G.M. District No. 16.
R.W. GEORGE H. KENDALL	Deputy for Chili, S.A.
R.W. T. B. EAMES	Special Deputy for China.
R.W. RICHARD H. HARTLEY	Special Deputy for Peru.
W. REV. JAMES A. BOLLES, D.D., Boston, }	Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. CHARLES H. TITUS, Taunton, }	
W. WILLIAM T. GRAMMER, Woburn	Grand Marshal.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN, Lowell	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. WARREN FISHER, Jr., Boston	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. E. WATERS BURR, Hingham, }	Grand Stewards.
W. LUCIUS W. LOVELL, Bridgewater, }	
W. JAMES B. PICKETT, Newton, }	
W. JOHN HAIGH, Lawrence,	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE, Medford	
W. LOVELL BICKNELL, East Weymouth . .	
W. CHARLES KIMBALL, Lowell, }	Grand Pursuivants.
W. GEORGE T. WEAVER, Springfield, }	
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, Groton Junction, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, Auburndale, }	
W. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Boston, }	
Br. HOWARD M. DOW, Boston	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.

COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY :

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY, R.W. WENDELL T. DAVIS.

COMMITTEE ON CHARITY :

R.W. SOLON THORNTON, R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, W. MARLBOROUGH WILLIAMS.

The M.W. Grand Master installed the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Charles Levi Woodbury, and the Deputy Grand Masters, except R.W. Br. David W. Crafts, who was absent, and the Deputy Grand Master installed the remainder of the appointed officers, except W. George T. Weaver, Grand Pursuivant, and W. E. Dana Bancroft, Senior Grand Lecturer, both of whom were absent.

The Grand Marshal made the customary proclamation.

The M.W. Grand Master delivered the following —

A D D R E S S.

On the 28th of December, 1829, the Grand Master, in his Inaugural Address to the Grand Lodge at the time of his installation, said :—

“No Masonic Body, perhaps, lies under greater responsibilities than this Grand Lodge.

“It is the first established in America, and by its authority, Freemasonry was first promulgated in our land. This Body if I mistake not, has ever sustained a high character for dignity and respectability.

“When I consider the distinguished men who have occupied this chair, and the great importance which has ever been attached to this office, I tremble lest I should put forth, as it were, a sacrilegious hand and touch the ark. I am inclined to shrink from responsibilities which are so disproportionate to my powers. When I think, too, that our institution is attacked by foes without and foes within, how does it heighten the interest and the fearfulness of the undertaking. But, my brethren, I have not in this respect taken a leap in the dark. I know the nature and character of the institution, whose defence I now re-espouse, and I am ready to stand by its interests and to protect them with all my feeble powers.”

Such were the encouraging and manly words of one of our Grand Masters, at a time when it required courage and independence to represent the Fraternity in Massachusetts, and to stand forth in vindication of its professions and principles. To-day, after nearly forty years of storm and sunshine, of adversity succeeded by a wonderful prosperity, I repeat his words, feeling similar doubt, weighed down by like responsibilities, but looking forward to the same deliverance which his prophetic eye then clearly saw in the future.

The fact that Masonry was first established upon this continent in Massachusetts, and that this Grand Lodge can trace its history back to 1733, when, as a Province of the Grand Lodge of England, it was organized in this city, probably impressed itself upon our distinguished brother. This is the Mother Grand Lodge upon this side of the waters, and therefore "it lies under greatest responsibilities than any other Masonic Body." East and west, north and south has its influence extended. From its own bosom have gone forth brethren distinguished in all the walks of life, to plant in other States and in other lands, the institution which here was so much respected. Masonry has been carefully cultivated in this State, and this Grand Lodge has always sustained the high character for dignity and respectability to which, in 1829, it was considered necessary to allude. Those who have been chosen to direct its affairs have been gentlemen of high character and influence, and have reflected back upon the Fraternity that lustre which they have derived from it.

To preserve this dignified position, and transmit to our successors the Grand Lodge unimpaired in influence, untarnished in reputation, undegraded in dignity, becomes now our duty and our care.

At the time referred to, a violent political tempest was raging against the institution, encouraged by many influential men, and such was its fury, that the professed Mason adhered to his obligations and his Lodge at the expense of his social position, and oftentimes of excommunication from his religious society. In

our day we have no such ordeal to pass through. We practice our rites undisturbed, and enjoy to the fullest extent the popular favor. Men of all classes and conditions, in great numbers, flock to our temples and gather about our alters. If, brethren, numbers constitute the successful state of Masonry, then are we indeed fortunate. The number of Lodges and of members was never before so large as at the present time, and the outward signs of prosperity were never more encouraging.

In view of the wonderful increase of the Fraternity, the brethren of the Grand Lodge, in 1864, determined to erect a Temple which should at once be a monument of masonic enterprise, and a home for the Craft. Reserving the history of this building for a future occasion, I will only add now that the Temple was constructed at a cost of about \$423,127.01, so far as I have been able to gather, and that the Grand Lodge is now indebted to the amount of \$377,460.79. The interest which it has assumed to pay annually is \$29,882.31, being over \$10,000 more than the Grand Lodge was worth when the inaugural of 1829 was delivered.

Before these liabilities accrued, the care of the Grand Lodge was comparatively light, and the duties of the executive officers few.

Now the Grand Lodge has become a corporation, and its financial interests exceed all others. It reckons, not by thousands, but by hundreds of thousands of dollars, and it has become a recognized borrower of money in the busy marts of trade. Its notes mature and must be paid. Interest accumulates, bills become due. Thus Masonry which has carefully kept aloof from the influences and excitements of the world, has in a measure become mixed up with them. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has thus entered upon its new and untried experiment. The care of the Lodges, the preservation and perfection of the ritual, charity which should be our great object, become subordinate to the greater duty of paying our debts and meeting our engagements.

The overshadowing importance of our financial embarrass-

ment meets us at every point, and oppresses the administration of the affairs of the Grand Lodge. It would be wise to dis sever the financial and purely masonic duties of the Grand Lodge, to place them in separate official departments, so that one should not interfere with the other. Those brethren in affluent circumstances, familiar with the intricate ways of finance should have charge of the corporation, whatever may be their masonic experience or acquirements. A complete knowledge of our ritual and jurisprudence will not aid in raising money or paying our debts. It is impossible now to say how much would have been saved to the Grand Lodge, if some such plan had been adopted as early as 1864.

The impression exists that the Grand Lodge is exclusive, and that the Fraternity at large has no interest in it. Nothing could be more erroneous. Grand Lodges are comparatively of modern origin. The brethren formerly met in general convention to elect Grand Masters and transact general business for the good of the Craft. Such was the practice in England. In time these conventions became unwieldy, and the necessity arose of forming Grand Lodges upon the representative principle, by which the administration of masonic affairs could be conducted with greater regularity and less confusion. The inherent power of a Mason is none the less now than in the days of the "General Assembly." In our Grand Lodge the Masters and Wardens of the respective Lodges are members. Through them every member of a subordinate Lodge is represented, and the power of the brethren is so far preserved that now, as in ancient times, they have the constitutional right to instruct their Masters and Wardens how to vote and act in Grand Lodge. There is no exclusive power in the Grand Lodge for all time, although in the exercise of its authority the Craft has invested it with authority over all the brethren in the jurisdiction, and to its decrees and edicts unlimited obedience must be paid. "Every warranted Lodge is a constituent part of the Grand Lodge, in which assembly all the powers of the Fraternity reside," say our own Constitutions. The brethren throughout

the jurisdiction elect the Masters and Wardens, who control the destinies of the Grand Lodge, and the brethren of the Lodges can direct the action of their representatives. The decrees, edicts, regulations, and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge can be changed and modified whenever the Craft consider it wise and judicious so to do.

The power of the Grand Master is unquestionably great as much as no appeal lies from his decision. But his election is annually, in which two-thirds of the votes must concur. There is opportunity to remove an arbitrary and unreasonable Master speedily occurs.

To make more easy the representation in Grand Lodge, it has been determined that the three votes of each Lodge can be cast although but one representative is present. In addition it is provided that a Lodge can elect a proxy to act for it. The Masters and Wardens shall not either of them be present.

It is apparent that every facility is given to the Fraternity to control the Grand Lodge, and that the rights of every member of the jurisdiction are recognized and preserved. As in the Grand Assembly, he has every privilege save that of a direct vote in Grand Lodge, and these are indirectly preserved through the representatives whom he selects, and whose conduct he can point out and direct.

The votes in Grand Lodge are classified thus :—

Permanent members	
Officers	
Masters and Wardens, about	

The permanent members are many of them aged, some are of the State, or at such a distance from the Grand East that they rarely enter the Grand Lodge; while others are enumerated in the list of officers. They are made life-members by the brethren (with one exception), two-thirds of whom must concur in the election. These members, therefore are the brethren at large through their representatives. These members undoubtedly acquire influence. They would

elected such if they did not possess it ; they ought not to lose it because they are elected. The object probably of making this kind of membership in Grand Lodge was to preserve from destruction the Grand Body itself. Whatever calamity might befall the institution at large, or come upon the Lodges, this peculiar membership would perpetuate the Grand Lodge and protect it from annihilation. Should every Lodge in the jurisdiction cease to exist, the Grand Lodge would not thereby necessarily die. In the calm quiet of its own secluded retreat, it could preserve its vitality, until the proper time came to re-establish its subordinates and again exercise its powers. Even this precaution did not preserve the Grand Lodge of Michigan from disorganization. In the excitement of Anti-Masonry that Grand Body disbanded, and lost its very existence ; and when in more peaceful times it sought to renew its life, it was determined by the judgment of its sister Grand Lodges, that it did not possess it ; that its existence had terminated, and that the Grand Lodge of Michigan could be established only by the action of the Lodges of the State.

This membership is a part of our masonic system, and is as old as the history of Grand Lodges. These members have been selected for their masonic worth and experience by two-thirds of the brethren composing the Grand Lodge, and it is a well known fact that they have never acted nor voted as a unit on any matter upon which the other members of the Grand Lodge have been divided.

From what has been said it is evident that the Fraternity at large, the thousands of Masons scattered over Massachusetts, are responsible for the present financial condition of the Grand Lodge. Whatever has been done, has met with their tacit consent, their implied approval. I recognize the right of every member of the Grand Lodge to inquire into our financial affairs, at proper times and in proper places, and it is due to him and to the brethren whom he represents, that a true and faithful statement be given, if such will not impair the credit of the Grand Lodge, and provided also that the proper officers have it in their power to

make it. It has certainly shown great confidence in past administrations, that no brother has called upon the Grand Officers for any exhibit of the expenses of the erection of this building—the contracts which have been made, with whom, and at what rates. The Board of Directors, I doubt not, would have given every opportunity for a careful, scrutinizing examination of all their proceedings, would have willingly exhibited their records,—where should exist in full, the history of the expenditure, and the authority therefor, of every dollar upon this structure, if such request had ever been made.

The argument is irresistible, —

First, — That the representatives of the Fraternity at large directed the building of this Temple.

Second, — That the Fraternity at large by their silence, by taking no steps to prevent it, encouraged their Board of Directors to proceed in the way and manner that they have in its erection.

Third, — That the Fraternity at large are responsible for the debt incurred.

Whether these conclusions are correct or not, the debt incurred is an indebtedness of the Grand Lodge, of which every subordinate Lodge is a constituent part, while every affiliated Mason is a constituent part of his Lodge.

It requires, however, no logic to convince the brethren that the debt of the Grand Lodge is a matter in which they each and all have a vital interest. This subject has been presented in various forms, within the last two years. I can only reiterate what has already been said, and if possible, stimulate the brethren to greater exertions in behalf of the Grand Lodge. It needs every dollar which can be raised. The commutation which has already been paid has relieved it from great embarrassment, and it is to be hoped that the balance unpaid may be collected by some plan similar to that which has been resorted to.

I desire above all things to preserve that “dignity and respectability” which has characterized this Grand Lodge in all its

past history, and I desire to retain in the office of Grand Master all those powers which belong to it. In the recess of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master undoubtedly has much authority, and the Constitutions and ancient laws recognize it fully. But when the Grand Lodge is in session, he is the presiding officer of a dignified and respectable assembly of Masons and gentlemen, many of whom are as well, if not better, qualified to perform the duties of Grand Master than he is himself. In the Grand Lodge reside all the power of the Grand Master. It makes him presiding officer thereof, and invests him with the authority which he exercises. He is the high servant of the Craft at large. They have placed such confidence in the wisdom of their choice, that they deny the right of appeal from his decision. And yet, brethren, I should deliberate long, before ruling, that the opinion of the Grand Lodge was not more worthy of consideration than my own. The denial of the right of appeal was unquestionably made for wise purposes, and this great power was placed in the Grand Master for reasons which are obvious to every Mason ; but it is a power which is to be exercised rarely, never capriciously, with great caution, and only when the interests of the institution absolutely demand it.

The Grand Master is not "Masonry." He is the servant of all, appointed to a high and dignified position, to enforce the rules and regulations, both ancient and modern, made by the Craft for the government of the Craft.

The Grand Lodge is the Supreme Court of Appeal in all masonic cases, and may be addressed by appeal, petition, or memorial. Inasmuch as it is the governing power in Masonry, the high court of last resort, every facility should be afforded to the members of the Craft, and to its subordinates, to lay their grievances and complaints before it in accordance with the Constitutions, and to give them patient hearing. Between it and them there should ever exist the fullest confidence. The weight and authority of the one should never oppress the others, and they on their part should ever sustain it in its government. Although

its government is despotic, the Grand Lodge should never become the despot. While wilful and persistent disobedience of the edicts, decrees, and laws of the Grand Lodge, should be speedily and certainly punished, I would have its authority so light that the Lodges and brethren should scarcely recognize its existence. Whether considered as parental or fraternal, let its government be mild, easy, persuasive.

In entering upon the duties which appertain to the office of Grand Master, I shall endeavor to preserve, as far as is possible, the ancient customs and usages of the Craft, and the old manner of administering the affairs of this office. I have no new ideas to present, no new customs to inaugurate. To the Board of District Deputy Grand Masters I shall look to perform much of the labor which of late years has found its way into this office. In their several Districts it is expected that they will be Deputy Grand Masters *de facto* as well as *de jure*. They have been selected from the Fraternity for their high personal character, their knowledge of masonic jurisprudence, and their familiarity with the ritual. To them the brethren will have free and easy access for instruction, advice, and the construction of our Regulations and Constitutions. Their respective residences in the several Districts will make these communications at once convenient and agreeable.

Two years ago the Districts were remodelled throughout the Commonwealth. They were arranged, so far as could be done, upon the lines of railroads, that these officers, at little expense and with great rapidity, could visit their Lodges. The number in each was reduced, so that no one except the Boston District should contain more than twelve Lodges. The change was made carefully, with great labor, and was intended to be permanent.

After consideration I have made some alterations, which it is hoped will prove beneficial.

The First District comprises the twelve Lodges of Boston proper. To the Second District are added Faith and John Abbott Lodges. The Third District is composed of the Lodges in

South and East Boston, Roxbury, West Roxbury, and Dorchester. To the Fourth District are added Bethesda, Dalhousie, and Meridian Lodges. To the Twelfth District is added Middlesex Lodge.

Instruction in the lectures and ritual has been confided to three brethren of learning, experience, and of great ability in the art of teaching. The Grand Lodge has placed in their hands the established work of this jurisdiction, which it is not in their power to modify or change. To preserve it in its present verbal form will be their duty as well as their pride. There are many things in the manner of rendering this work, of a dramatic character, which each Lodge will practice according to its pleasure. But to the lectures and ritual, as taught by this Grand Lodge, it is expected that every Lodge will conform. To make this ritual more impressive, and the conferring of the degrees more attractive, should, in my judgment, be the study and aim of every Master. The introduction of music, and other adjuncts of a similar nature, have already done much to heighten the interests of the brethren in the exercises of the Lodge.

Until a comparatively recent period it was the custom for every Diploma to pass through the hands of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and for them, at the end of each year, to make return of the number furnished to each Lodge.* Of late years the officers of Lodges situated near the Grand East have applied directly to the Grand Secretary, who has furnished these documents *ad libitum*, in blank, and without keeping any account thereof.

The bill to the Grand Lodge for Diplomas amounts annually to a large sum, and every effort should be made to reduce it. Under the present system many Diplomas are issued which are never used, and so carelessly have they been kept, that they have found their way, with the signatures of the Grand Master and

* The Constitutions provide that these officers "shall furnish the Lodges with all such Diplomas as they shall be entitled to." Part I., Art. viii., Sect., 10.

Grand Secretary thereon, into the hands of the profane clandestine Masons. It cannot be expected that the official Lodges will be more careful of these instruments than the Lodge is.

During the present year the Grand Secretary will issue Diplomas to none but the District Deputy Grand Masters, with whom he will keep a careful account of the number issued. These Grand Officers will issue to the Lodges such Diplomas as may be required, upon proof satisfactory that they are actually needed for the purposes required; and they will keep an account of the number furnished to each Lodge, and make return thereof to the Grand Lodge at the end of the year. They will see that proper care is taken in their distribution, and at the time of their annual visits to the Lodges they will make examination of the disposition made of them. They will also make return of the number and names of each Past Master to whom they have issued Diplomas during their official term, and the Grand Secretary will furnish this Diploma to the District Deputies also, and will keep an account of the number issued and to whom.

Upon all the Grand Officers let me charge the necessity of the most rigid economy in every department of the Grand Lodge. While the Lodges and the brethren are striving to reduce their debt, let them be encouraged by the knowledge that the expenses of the Grand Lodge are reduced to the lowest possible point.

It is proper and becoming for us, upon this anniversary, to implore the Divine blessing upon the labors which we have this year undertaken, and to pray that this Grand Lodge, protected so far through the many vicissitudes it has passed, may for the future have the same protecting care through the year before us. Let us fully remember the manifold blessings and comforts with which our kind Providence has surrounded us, both as an institution and as brethren. Let us return our sincere thanksgiving to Almighty God for all his mercies towards us. His right hand has been in safety thus far on our journey through life.

Brethren! may the same heavenly care be over you this

ing year. May you return in safety to your homes from your labors here, encouraged to renewed exertions in behalf of Masonry and of our own Grand Lodge !

On motion of R. W. Charles Levi Woodbury, Deputy Grand Master, the Address of the M. W. Grand Master was referred R. W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, Charles W. Moore, and George W. Warren, the Committee charged with the Annual Report of Grand Master Dame.

The M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was then closed in Ample Form ; after which the brethren marched in procession to the Banquet Hall, when the Annual Feast was celebrated after the manner of Masons.

SOLON THORNTON,

Grand Secretary.



REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

FIRST DISTRICT.

LESLIE C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

For consecutive years, by your favor and that of your predecessor, it has been my privilege to serve the Worshipful Grand Lodge, as District Deputy Grand Master of the First Masonic District, and during the same term by the kindness of my associates, the distinguished Master has been mine, of presiding over the deliberations of the District of Deputies, representing the entire State. Other duties preclude the possibility of further service in this honorable position, and I therefore submit my final report of a long, laborious, yet very pleasant term of stewardship.

I have been gratified by your confidence in me, and by repeated appointments, — by the endorsement of my associates in electing me year by year to the position of District Deputy Grand Master, — and in the opportunities afforded me for intimate acquaintance with the brethren of

the nineteen different Lodges, that have at various times been attached to the District. All these have more than compensated for the cares and responsibilities of the position.

"The labor we delight in physics pain."

I have visited, officially, all the Lodges in the First Masonic District, except Baalbec and Hammatt Lodges of East Boston. For these, I authorized W. Br. Theodore H. Emmons by special warrant to perform the duties, who cheerfully accepted the trust, and whose Report is hereunto annexed.

The following table presents the work and condition of the Lodges in this District : —

Name of Lodge.	Initiates.	Number of Members.
St. John's	18	350
St. Andrew's	3	41
Massachusetts	12	209
Columbian	21	315
Mount Lebanon	21	297
Mount Tabor	19	231
Baalbec	9	149
Winalow Lewis	8	64
Revere	10	162
Germania	5	91
Joseph Warren	38	298
Hammatt	9	82
Aberdour	4	68
Eleusis	6	46
Zetland	6	43
Whole number	184	2,446
Whole number last year	300	2,362

The circulars prepared by the Finance Committee, in accordance with the vote of the Grand Lodge at its Quarterly Communication in September, and which presented in succinct form the pressing necessity for a speedy reduction of the floating debt, were duly forwarded to the Masters of the Lodges in the District. I found the number of brethren who

commuted the Grand Lodge tax (so-called) on the first number to be as follows : —

Name of Lodge.	Number of Members.	Number Commuted.
John's	350	73
Andrew's	41	50
Massachusetts	209	27
Amherst	315	288
Ant Lebanon	297	52
Ant Tabor	231	33
Bec	149	2
Slow Lewis	64	74
ere	162	70
mania	91	38
ph Warren	298	96
umatt	82	20
rdour	68	68
sis	46	12
and	43	1
Total	2,446	904

are to say, Worshipful Sir, without having examined the records, that no better exhibit can be made by any of the Lodges in your jurisdiction, and this, too, with the aid of the twenty-four masonic organizations meeting at the Temple, greatly enhanced by heavy rents and other incident to the occupancy of so extensive a building ; it must be borne in mind that a large portion of the revenue of the Grand Lodge is derived from these institutions. Notwithstanding this fact, I take heart from the many remarks touching commutation were received, the inquiries made, and in the great interest manifested by the members of every Lodge, and I have faith to believe that every Mason in the First Masonic District (whose means it will aid in cancelling the floating debt and save the Charity Fund.

I will again present the roll of honor of the Lodges

which needed no spur, no incentive, when they were called upon to fulfil their masonic obligations, and obey to the spirit as well as the letter, the edicts and decrees of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge : —

COLUMBIAN.
ST. ANDREW'S.

WINSLOW LEWIS.
ABERDOUR.

all of which commuted the tax in full.

The work throughout the District has greatly improved, every Lodge showing more approximation towards the ritual as exemplified by authority, and more care in the working out the detail. The irksomeness of my duty in making fifteen almost consecutive official visits, has been entirely overborne by the delight I have experienced, in witnessing the efforts of able and enthusiastic officers.

And now comes the sad duty of an official farewell to all the brethren whom I have guided, under your direction, for the past four years, — of Bethesda, Monitor, Pequossette, and Belmont Lodges, who were with me in my first years of service, and of whom I have most happy recollections, — of St. Andrew's, worthy descendants of those who gathered under the sign of the old Green Dragon, — of Massachusetts and of Columbian, honoring me greatly as the representative the Grand Lodge, — of Mount Lebanon, where *he* whose blood courses through my veins first saw masonic light, and the brethren of which Lodge garlanded his remains with the sacred sprig of acacia, — of Mount Tabor, Baalbec, and Hammatt, — of Winslow Lewis, Revere, Germania, Joseph Warren, Aberdour, Eleusis, and Zetland, who have laid me under so many obligations, — and last, old St. John's, "Ancient of Days," hoary with its one hundred and thirty-

of masonic life, — to each and all, a kind farewell ;
 prosperity ever attend them, " brotherly love prevail,
 and social and moral virtue cement them."

Fraternally yours,

JAMES A. FOX,

D.D.G.M. First Masonic District.

JAMES A. FOX, *D.D.G.M. First Masonic District.*

SIR AND BROTHER, — At your request, I visited, on
 the 1st of November, Baalbec Lodge, and on the 25th,
 the 1st Lodge, both of East Boston. In both, I was
 received in the most cordial manner as your representa-
 tive, and every facility was afforded me in the discharge of
 my duties.

Both Lodges are in a prosperous condition, having
 a fair amount of work during the past year, and, so far
 as I can learn, working harmoniously together.

I will observe, by the returns, that there are a large
 number of rejections to the number of initiates, and I
 desire to call attention to the fact, at the same time
 to state that it was for good and sufficient reasons.

I desire to thank you, sir, for the opportunity afforded
 me to visit the brethren of East Boston, and witnessing a
 fair amount of work, although not in accordance with the estab-
 lished ritual, yet such as we sometimes meet with in other
 Lodges.

Fraternally yours,

THEODORE H. EMMONS.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the honor herewith to submit to you a Report of my acts during the past year in the office to which you did me the honor to assign me, in the Second Masonic District of the Commonwealth. Having completed my round of visits to the several Lodges in the District, as the Deputy of the Grand Master, I find their condition as regards membership and the number of initiates during the year ending August 31, 1868, to be as follows : —

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.
King Solomon's . .	Charlestown . .	224	26
Mount Carmel . .	Lynn	171	15
Star of Bethlehem .	Chelsea	202	9
Mount Hermon . .	Medford	123	10
Wyoming	Melrose	182	21
Mount Vernon . .	Malden	162	14
Henry Price . . .	Charlestown . .	178	34
Golden Fleece . .	Lynn	86	18
William Sutton . .	Saugus	46	9
Robert Lash . . .	Chelsea	38	6
Total		1,407	162

The above table shows a wide difference in the number of candidates who have been admitted to the Degrees, but my investigations have satisfied me that great caution and care have been observed by those Lodges who have admitted the largest numbers, in the selection of their candidates. In most of them there has been an amplitude of good material from which their choice has been made, and the numerous rejections throughout the District demonstrate

that the Lodges are firmly resolved that the true standard of qualification for admission into our Fraternity shall not be lowered.

Upon inspection of the Records and By-Laws, I find that, in all cases, the Records have been kept with care and accuracy, and in some of the Lodges with praiseworthy neatness and elegance, and that the By-Laws are well framed for the purposes of organization and government. As to the performance of the ritual and technical ceremonies of the Fraternity, there has been so general an illustration, both of correctness in work and of impressiveness in its delivery, that it is difficult to claim superiority for any one Lodge over others in the District in these respects. Inasmuch, however, as officers differ in temperament, in culture, and education, we might naturally expect to find some difference between the Masters of Lodges in the rendition of the work. Some, having cultivated the faculty of memory in its circumstantial and verbal form, lay great stress upon the accuracy and exactness of the *words* of the ritual, while others are more careful to give to the words, by an impressive delivery and imposing address, their highest force and vigor. In every Lodge in the District, one or both of these good results are seen; and, in some of them, they unite to produce the best impressions of the ritual.

In regard to the subject of commutations of the tax of the Grand Lodge for the liquidation of the debt upon the Temple, I regret to state that I did not receive the circulars of the Committee appointed at the last Quarterly Communication, until I had visited nine of the Lodges in the District, so that I have been unable to accomplish that which might have been possible upon an earlier receipt of those circulars.

I am satisfied that there is a general desire throughout the District that the debt should be paid and all our obligations honorably discharged at the earliest date. I feel bound also to report that there is an almost equal desire that the money necessary to discharge the existing debt should be raised by some other method than by the present yearly tax or its commutation. A suggestion has been made that a voluntary subscription in all the Lodges be tried, conditioned upon the raising of the whole amount necessary. If any such method should commend itself to the Grand Lodge, and the District Deputy Grand Masters, or some other competent brethren, should visit *all* the Lodges of the several Districts upon this special work alone, it may be that such an interest and enthusiasm might be awakened as would accomplish the much-needed result.

The amount of commutations paid by the several Lodges in the Second District will appear by the following statement:—

	\$10.00	\$2.00
King Solomon's	1	17
Mount Carmel	0	0
Star of Bethlehem	9	4
Mount Hermon	1	23
Wyoming	0	11
Mount Vernon	4	0
Henry Price	34	19
Golden Fleece	0	0
William Sutton	0	0
Robert Lash	0	2
Total	49	76

Whole number of commutations for the year, 125 ; amount paid, \$1,174.00.

As the Deputy of the Grand Master, I have been received

at all my visits with great cordiality and respect, and the very able and experienced brethren who have honored me as members of the visiting delegation, and to whom I desire to tender my sincere thanks, have derived much pleasure and satisfaction from the inspections of the Lodges. The true spirit of Masonry pervades the District, and the only return I have been able to make for the kindness invariably shown to me by all the Lodges, has been to endeavor to recur to those great and fundamental principles upon which the Fraternity rests, and upon which depend its future growth and prosperity.

With my thanks for the honor of this appointment, permit me to subscribe myself,

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

TRACY P CHEEVER,

D.D.G.M. Second Masonic District.

CHELSEA, Dec. 1, 1868.

THIRD DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — With the close of another year of official labor comes the duty of placing before you a statement of the condition of the several Lodges comprising the District you have been pleased to place under my care. In so doing, I deem it unnecessary to specify each Lodge in particular, as that would, from the condition of

things, necessitate repetition, and consequently extend this Report beyond proper limits.

During the past autumn, I have visited officially all the Lodges in the District assigned me, and have, without exception, been most cordially and respectfully received as your representative. I find the several Charters in a good state of preservation, the By-Laws approved, and the Records faithfully and, in several instances, neatly kept. Specimens of work have been exhibited in every instance, which, as a whole, fully sustain the high commendation bestowed in my last Report. It has been a year of substantial progress, as well in the spirit as in the letter of Masonry; and I am happy to report *all* the Lodges of the District in a healthful and prosperous condition.

The following table presents the work and condition of the Lodges in the Third District:—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Middlesex . . .	Framingham . . .	5 . . .	56
Washington . . .	Roxbury . . .	15 . . .	206
Union	Dorchester . . .	11 . . .	168
Meridian	Natick	8 . . .	112
Bethesda	Brighton	15 . . .	72
St. Paul's	South Boston . . .	15 . . .	228
Gate of the Temple	South Boston . . .	13 . . .	161
Dalhousie	Newton	18 . . .	142
Adelphi	South Boston . . .	15 . . .	56
Lafayette	Roxbury	4 . . .	45
Eliot	West Roxbury . . .	7 . . .	40
Total		126 . .	1,276

The above exhibit, compared with the preceding year, shows an increase of seventy members, and a decrease of twenty-three in the number of initiates.

In closing this department of my masonic labor, I desire,

through you, to return my grateful acknowledgments, and to express my sincere thanks to the officers and members of the several Lodges of the Third District, for the uniform courtesy and kindness they have extended to me during the term of my official service; also, to return my thanks to, and best wishes for, the brothers who have so cheerfully aided me in the discharge of my official duties.

With renewed assurances of my kind regard, I remain,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRIGHAM,

D.D.G.M. Third Masonic District.

AUBURNDALE, December, 1868.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the honor herewith to submit the following Report of the condition of the several Lodges comprised in the Fourth Masonic District, and the result of the work ending Sept. 1, 1868.

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Corinthian	Concord	8	54
Hiram	Arlington	29	159
Amicable	Cambridgeport	14	238
Monitor	Waltham	14	132
Putnam	East Cambridge	7	96
Pequossette	Watertown	10	100
John Abbot	Somerville	12	172
Mount Olivet	Cambridge	9	98
Belmont	Belmont	14	27
Isaac Parker	Waltham	6	40
Total		128	1,111

I have visited all the Lodges named in the Fourth Masonic District, and can assure you that the Lodges are well officered, and the work has been well and uniformly done, and I shall ever remember with pleasure and gratitude my official visits to the several Lodges for their kindness and cordial greeting. Thanking you for the honor of the appointment,

I remain yours fraternally,

HENRY ENDICOTT,

D.D.G.M. Fourth Masonic District.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit my Third Annual Report of the condition of the several Lodges comprising the Fifth Masonic District.

It is very gratifying to me to be able to say, as it must be to all who are interested in the Masonic Institution to learn, that the Lodges in this District are in a very prosperous and excellent condition; nothing has occurred to mar the harmony which has heretofore existed, and although several of our brightest Masons have retired from office, yet the more than ordinary interest manifested by those who have been selected to succeed them, to perfect themselves in the ritual, — assures me that every effort will be used to conduce to the prosperity and welfare of the Lodges, and that

important duties devolving upon them will be faithfully performed.

Very few Dispensations have been granted, and the reasons for them have been far less than during any previous year.

The following table will show the number of members and number of initiates in each Lodge in this District :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Members.	Initiates.
Anthropic	Marblehead	97	10
Adrian	Gloucester	153	9
Adex	Salem	163	18
Adlan	Peabody	155	15
Aderty	Beverly	108	13
Adler	Rockport	97	14
Adity	Danvers	126	12
Adr King	Salem	85	15
Adn T. Heard	Ipewich	81	10
Adcia	Gloucester	68	20
Total		1,183	186

From the above table, it will be seen that there has been an increase compared with the preceding year, of one hundred members and three initiates.

My visits to the Lodges, whether official or otherwise, have been exceedingly pleasant, and I feel under great obligation for the very warm and cordial welcome which I have everywhere received.

In assurances of my best wishes for the future, I have to be,

Most respectfully and fraternally yours,

GEORGE H. PEIRSON,

D.D.G.M. Fifth Masonic District.

Dec. 1, 1868.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In submitting this, my Third Annual Report, I am gratified in being able to say that the Lodges comprising this interesting District are, for the most part, in a remarkably satisfactory condition.

The number of initiates hardly equals that of the past year, while the number of rejections are largely increased, leaving me to conclude that committees have been more careful in examining into the character of applicants, and the Lodges more cautious in their selections. In my official visits, I have dwelt at length upon the practical requirements of our Order, and have urged upon the brethren of the various Lodges (with all the earnestness which I could command) the necessity of consistency. My visits commenced with —

ST. MARK'S LODGE, NEWBURYPORT. — As we were honored with your presence on that occasion, I think you will agree with me in saying the work was excellent, and that the Lodge is ably officered. Number of members, 128; number of initiates, 15.

MERRIMACK LODGE, HAVERHILL. — This Lodge I found to be making satisfactory progress. Its records are neatly and correctly kept, and its work substantially that laid down by the Grand Lodge. Number of members, 179; number of initiates, 15.

CHARLES C. DAME LODGE, GEORGETOWN. — This is the youngest Lodge in the District, and I make mention of it at

of my Report, as being in the order of my visits. my first visit to this new Lodge, and I feel that hardly find words to express my approbation of all I saw and heard. Its apartments are finished and furnished with excellent taste. The work was most admirable. If you were present with us, I think you will attest the usefulness, when I say, that this Lodge stands second in the District. Number of members, 56 ; number of initiates, 14.

MATTHEW'S LODGE, ANDOVER. — This Lodge is well conducted, and so far as I could judge, is in a healthy condition. Good order prevails in the Lodge-room, and harmony among its members. Number of members, 91 ; number of initiates, 4.

NEW LODGE, LAWRENCE. — This Lodge, constituted in 1854, has grown so rapidly that measures have already been taken looking to the formation of a third Lodge in this community. The work exhibited at the time of my visit was strictly in accordance with that of the Grand Lodge, and received my warmest approval. Number of members, 159 ; number of initiates, 25.

HANCOCK LODGE is located in the flourishing village of Amesbury. New officers had been elected and installed before my visit. The work was the Third Degree, and I was very happy in being able to add that I have seldom seen the Third Degree so impressively conferred. Number of members, 100 ; number of initiates, 6.

NEW LODGE, AMESBURY. — This old Lodge is in a healthy condition, its work excellent, its officers well quali-

fied, and its records, as usual, correctly kept. Number of members, 109 ; number of initiates, 8.

GRECIAN LODGE, LAWRENCE. — This is the largest Lodge in the District, and numbers among its members some of our oldest and most respected citizens. Its work is, with few exceptions, that of the Grand Lodge. For your kindness in accepting my invitation to be present at the time of my visit to this Lodge, and for the eloquent and instructive address which you was pleased to make, I desire, "here and now," to record my thanks. Number of members, 241 ; number of initiates, 20.

SAGGAHEW LODGE, HAVERHILL. — This young Lodge is prospering, its work is excellent, and its records beautifully kept. Number of members, 94 ; number of initiates, 10.

My official visits for the year were concluded by a visit to ST. JOHN'S LODGE, NEWBURYPORT. — Three generations have arisen and passed away since this the oldest Lodge in the District (whose charter dates back more than a century) was constituted. My visit was marked with that courtesy and attention which, as your representative, I invariably receive. Number of members, 126 ; number of initiates, 20.

Very few Dispensations for conferring degrees out of course have been asked for. I have signed an application for Dispensation for one new Lodge, to be located at West Amesbury, to be called Bethany Lodge. Only two Lodges in the District have responded with anything like their apparent ability to the appeal from the Grand Lodge. This may be owing in part to the fact that the circulars sent out by the Board of Directors reached me too late to be of much service, as part of my visits had been made. In conclusion, I desire

to renew my appreciation of the courtesy and kindness which has marked all our official intercourse. And with thanks for the honor of a second re-appointment, permit me, now that your "term of service" is so rapidly drawing to a close, to congratulate you upon the marked ability with which you have discharged the trying duties of your position, and to couple with my congratulations my earnest well wishes for all your future.

With kindest personal and fraternal regards,

I am yours truly,

LEMUEL A. BISHOP,

D.D.G.M. Sixth Masonic District.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit my Annual Report of the condition of the Lodges comprising the Seventh Masonic District.

I have visited all the Lodges in this District officially, with the exception of the two in Groton.

R.W. Br. Salmon made the official visits to St. Paul's and Caleb Butler Lodges, and his Report is herewith respectfully submitted.

The Lodges throughout the District are in a prosperous and satisfactory condition, and I have on all occasions been received with much kindness.

Whenever I have visited any Lodge officially or informally, I have called the attention of the members to the request of the Grand Lodge, that all the brethren, who could, would commute the annual tax by the present payment of nine dollars. Many of the brethren have promptly and very cordially responded to the call. About one-fifth part of all the affiliated Masons in this District have commuted this year; and I am especially indebted to R.W. Br. Salmon for the time he has devoted to visiting the several Lodges in this District with me, for the purpose of making known the condition of affairs and the wants of the M.W. Grand Lodge.

William North Lodge, of Lowell, was consecrated by the M.W. Grand Lodge on the twenty-sixth day of March last, and the brethren of this young Lodge are actively and usefully devoting themselves to the interests of Masonry.

Since they received their Charter, they have initiated ten, and admitted seventeen to membership.

The following table will show the number of initiates during the year, and the number of members at the close of the year :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
St. Paul's	Groton	4 . . .	40
Aurora	Fitchburg	12 . . .	133
Pentucket	Lowell	24 . . .	253
Ancient York	Lowell	14 . . .	186
Mount Horeb	Woburn	11 . . .	88
Caleb Butler	Groton Junction	8 . . .	70
William Parkman	Winchester	4 . . .	57
Charles W. Moore	Fitchburg	7 . . .	44
Kilwinning	Lowell	2 . . .	35
William North	Lowell	10 . . .	55
Total		96 . . .	961

With many thanks for the pleasure I have enjoyed through your favor,

I am very truly and fraternally yours,

CHARLES KIMBALL,

D.D.G.M. Seventh Masonic District.

LOWELL, December, 1868.

R.W. CHARLES KIMBALL, *D.D.G.M. Seventh District.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In accordance with your instruction, I visited St. Paul's Lodge, at Groton, and Caleb Butler Lodge, at Groton Junction, on the 26th ult., at each of which places I was cordially received as the official representative of the M.W. Grand Lodge.

There was no exhibition of work in either Lodge, but from my acquaintance with the officers and their specimen of skill shown on previous occasions, I know that everything is done in a manner worthy the home of the Senior Grand Lecturer. The returns show that both Lodges have done a fair amount of work, and the liberal attendance evinced a healthy interest in the cause of Masonry. I regret to report that the brethren of St. Paul's and Caleb Butler have done little towards relieving the wants of the Grand Lodge, by the payment of commutation fees, and I endeavored by an earnest appeal to each, to stimulate them to better results in the future.

By request I installed the officers of both Lodges, all of them earnest in the work, and giving promise of good results for the ensuing year.

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

W. F. SALMON.

LOWELL, November, 1868.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the pleasure to submit herewith my Report of the condition of the Lodges comprising the Eighth Masonic District.

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Republican	Greenfield	18 . . .	163
Harmony	Northfield	8 . . .	52
Pacific	Amherst	9 . . .	117
Mountain	Sherburne Falls	6 . . .	75
Bethel	Enfield	11 . . .	69
Orange	Orange	12 . . .	96
Hope	Gardner	2 . . .	69
Star	Athol	9 . . .	72
Artisan	Winchendon	7 . . .	34
Total		82 . . .	747

There have been not quite as many initiates in this District as in the preceding year, but the aggregate number of members has slightly increased.

All the Lodges are in a sound and prosperous condition, and their work is done exceedingly well. The exceptions I had occasion to speak of last year have been remedied.

I have, in my official visits as your Deputy, been received with great kindness by the Lodges, and I have found great pleasure and satisfaction in the visits.

Thanking you for the honor of the appointment as Deputy,

I am fraternally yours,

I. F. CONKEY,

D.D.G.M. Eighth Masonic District.

AMHERST, Dec. 7, 1868.

NINTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit the following as my Report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Masonic District for the year ending August 31, 1868.

Since my last Annual Report, I have personally visited in my official capacity, all the Lodges in the District but two. On the evenings appointed for visits to Wisdom Lodge, West Stockbridge, and Cincinnatus Lodge, Great Barrington, I was necessarily away, and therefore requested R.W. Br. Lorenzo H. Gamwell, Past Senior Grand Warden and present Grand Lecturer, to visit them for me, which he kindly consented to do, and for which I desire publicly to acknowledge my obligations to him. His Report of their condition represents them as much in the same condition as last year.

In most of the Lodges, a good degree of harmony prevails. In one, to which I have called your attention, the number of rejections and the character of the men rejected indicate the presence, on the part of some one or more, of a spirit hardly masonic; while in two or three others some dissatisfaction still exists in relation to the Grand Lodge capitation tax; but this is confined to those Lodges where the same feeling existed last year, and in one or two of them is little, if any, abated.

On my visit to Evening Star Lodge, Lee, which had not paid the tax for last year, I made a full statement to them of

the condition of things, and of what the result to them would be if they still refused to pay, and gave them three days in which to arrange it. Within that time, they paid the tax for last year in full, and paid for thirty-seven members for the present year, accounting for the balance of members returned, as six refusing to pay, and fifteen as non-paying or not accessible. This result rendered unnecessary any further action under the mandamus issued by you to me in relation to this Lodge, and it was therefore returned to you with an endorsement to this effect.

Cincinnatus Lodge, at Great Barrington, has made a return similar to that made last year, returning one hundred and three members, but paying tax on only twenty, without any explanation. A list of those paying was, upon my application, subsequently forwarded to me by the secretary, and which is herewith enclosed.

There have been as yet but few commutations of the tax in this District. Some twenty in Mystic Lodge, and perhaps an individual case or more in one or two others, being all; but some of the Lodges are feeling the importance of this, and I think that during the coming year there will be a good many.

The following table will show the condition of the Lodges the present year : —

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Cincinnatus . . .	Great Barrington . . .	22 . . .	108
Evening Star . . .	Lee	11 . . .	59
Lafayette	North Adams	7 . . .	109
Wisdom	West Stockbridge . . .	5 . . .	42
Mystic	Pittsfield	14 . . .	125
Mount Moriah . . .	Westfield	14 . . .	171
Berkshire	South Adams	4 . . .	67
Huntington	Huntington	12 . . .	81
Total		89 . . .	707

It will be seen by this that, notwithstanding there has been eighty-nine initiates during the year, there has still been quite a falling off in membership. This is accounted for by the fact that the Lodges have been correcting their rolls, which in some cases contained the names of persons who have been long deceased, removed, or non-contributing, and also by the fact that in some of the Lodges the list of dimitted is, for some reason, swollen to large proportions, far exceeding any former precedent, and the number suspended for non-payment of dues large. I think a visit of some of the Grand Lodge officers to some of these Lodges would do a great deal of good, and I earnestly recommend it.

The Records of the Lodges are generally well kept, Charters carefully preserved, and the work in most of them well done, though in three or four greater accuracy might be attained.

The new Lodge at Huntington is doing well and making decided progress.

Applications for shortening time for conferring degrees have been very seldom asked for, and in each case where they have, the reasons given have seemed to justify the request, and it has therefore been granted.

Having now completed my duties and a long term of service in this position, I most gladly retire, and can only hope that my successor may find the duties agreeable and pleasant, his visits to the Lodges always welcome; and that he may be more successful in convincing some of them of the wisdom, justice, and necessity of the "*Order and Decree*" of the Grand Lodge, which has been a somewhat disturbing element

in the harmony of some of the Lodges for two years past, than I have been.

With renewed assurances of kind and fraternal regard, I remain,

Very truly yours,

HENRY CHICKERING,

D.D.G.M. Ninth Masonic District.

TENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In accordance with my duty, I have again to submit my Report as D.D.G. Master of District Number Ten.

Nothing has occurred during the past year to disturb the harmony of the Craft in this District; but, to the contrary, much has been done tending to show that brotherly love prevails among us.

The several Masonic Bodies of Springfield extended an invitation to their brethren in this and neighboring States, to assemble in their beautiful city on the twenty-fourth of June, and celebrate the day with appropriate masonic ceremonies. The day was all that could be desired, the assemblage much larger than could have been expected, and formed one of the finest masonic gatherings ever witnessed in the State, — only excelled by that attending the dedication of the new Temple in the city of Boston the year previous, and that only in

point of numbers. The Masons of Springfield may well be proud of their success in celebrating the twenty-fourth of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight.

I requested the officers and members of the Lodges in this District to meet in Springfield on the twenty-ninth of October, to witness an exemplification of the Work and Lectures by Lodges selected from different parts of the District, Hampden Lodge, of Springfield, having kindly tendered the use of their spacious and beautiful hall for that purpose. Every Lodge was well represented by its officers, and many of the members. The First Degree and Lectures were assigned to Jerusalem Lodge, of Northampton; the Second, to Thomas Lodge, of Palmer; the Third, to Hampden Lodge, of Springfield.

R.W. Br. L. H. Gamwell, of Pittsfield, Grand Lecturer, was present, and promptly answered all questions and making such corrections as were necessary at the close of each degree. The afternoon was spent on the First and Second Degrees. On being called from labor to refreshment, all were agreeably and unexpectedly surprised by being invited to partake of a sumptuous collation prepared by the Masons of Springfield, in a hall adjoining their Lodge room. The tables were loaded with all that man could wish, and proved more than ample, although more than one hundred were present. (Much good work was done at the tables.) Labor was again resumed, the evening spent on the Work and Lectures of the Third Degree. The Work presented by the three Lodges was most satisfactorily done, (all agreeing that the meeting was both pleasant and instructive,) and closed by a unanimous vote to meet each year in different

parts of the District, and make it one of the institutions of the Tenth District.

I have personally visited each Lodge, and find them all prosperous and conforming to the requirements of the Grand Lodge. In each of my visitations, I have been most cordially received, and would now return my thanks to the Masons of the Tenth District for their many acts of kindness to me.

The annexed table will show the number initiated the past year, and the number of members, August 31, 1868 :—

Lodges.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Jerusalem	Northampton	21	218
Mount Tom	Holyoke	14	144
Chicopee	Chicopee	17	180
Hampden	Springfield	34	188
Roswell Lee	Springfield	83	169
Thomas	Palmer	7	79
Day Spring	Monson	11	87
Quaboag	Warren	4	72
Hayden	Brookfield	10	61
Eden	Ware	5	48
Total		156	1,191

With thanks for the honor conferred upon me in the appointment of D.D.G. Master, I remain

Yours most respectfully and fraternally,

DAVID W. CRAFTS,

D.D.G.M. Tenth Masonic District.

NORTHAMPTON, December 22, 1868.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

ES C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit my Annual Report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Eleventh Masonic District. It is with pleasure that I find the Lodges of the District in good working order. They have made great improvement during the past year. Many changes have been made in the officers. Young men coming forward, full of masonic zeal, well qualified to excel their fathers in Masonry. Several have responded to the "Order" of the Grand Lodge by commuting for the tax. One, the oldest, the largest, and wealthiest Lodge, has commuted for all its members for nearly all, and others have done something, and will do more soon. A few of the Lodges, I am sorry to say, have not received sufficient light on the subject to bring them to come up to what others feel to be their duty. I have visited all of the Lodges in the District at least once, and most of them twice, and find that harmony and brotherly love prevail throughout all their borders.

The following table will show the work of the past year :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Shining Star	Worcester	32 . .	252
Mount Zion	Barre	10 . .	110
Unity	Clinton	11 . .	98
Antacutite	Worcester	31 . .	216
United Brethren . . .	Marlboro'	15 . .	95
Amneboag	Southbridge	11 . .	80
Order	Leominster	7 . .	84
Religious	Hudson	3 . .	87
Belstane	Worcester	24 . .	86
North Star	Ashland	7 . .	72
Total		151 . .	1,175

The above shows an increase of membership of one hundred and fifty-eight during the year. In concluding this Report, I would thank you again for the continued honor conferred upon me by this appointment. I would also return my thanks to the brethren of the Eleventh District for the very cordial manner in which they have always received me.

Very respectfully and fraternally yours,

A. A. BURDITT,
D.D.G.M. Eleventh Masonic District.

CLINTON, Dec. 4, 1868.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the honor to submit my Fourth Annual Report as D.D.G. Master of the Twelfth Masonic District, which comprises eleven Lodges.

During the year, I have granted seven Dispensations for shortening the time for conferring a part of the degrees, to enable the Lodges to finish work upon candidates that were about to leave town for an indefinite time.

January 14, 1868, visited Mount Hollis Lodge, Holliston, and installed the officers for the ensuing year. This installation was public to the lady friends of members. After the installation, the retiring Master, W. Br. E. F. Whiting, was presented with a beautiful service of silver by the brethren, as a testimonial of their regard for him, both as a

and an untiring friend of that Lodge ; after which, all partook of a most bountiful collation, prepared by es, and with the usual amount of speech-making, &c., made one of those pleasant occasions not be forgotten by those who are permitted to join in

er 1, visited Solomon's Temple Lodge, Uxbridge, received the returns and dues for the Grand Lodge. Lodge done no work on this occasion, but I am perfectly of the discretion and ability of its officers, and of the and good will of its members towards the Grand

er 13, visited Webster Lodge, Webster, installed ers for the ensuing year, and witnessed work on the degree, which was well done ; also received returns and the Grand Lodge.

er 26, visited Siloam Lodge, Westboro', and wit- work on the Third Degree, and I do not hesitate to t it was good work, both in correctness and style, y much superior to what I had expected to find in so a Lodge. I received the returns and dues for the Lodge, partook of a nice collation, staid quite late, a very agreeable visit.

er 27, visited Blackstone River Lodge, and, although Master had notified me (by letter) that there would k on the Second Degree for that evening, there work exhibited. One excuse *might* have been that as a political lecture in the hall beneath ; but the rning, one of the members of that Lodge (who was ne meeting) informed me that arrangements had been

made by the W. Master to confer the degree on the Friday evening, and the candidate notified to that effect. The Secretary had the returns for the Grand Lodge made, but the Treasurer had counted out the money and placed it in his hand to count before the W. Master and S. Warden arrived, but before I had time to count the money, the W. Master and S. Warden came in and objected to the money being any part of it, being paid out of the treasury of the River Lodge. Some of the members not having paid their annual dues, I did not get the returns of this Lodge for Dec. 1, and then dues for only a part of its members.

October 29, visited Franklin Lodge, Grafton. This Lodge is in excellent hands, and my visits to it have been seasons of pleasure. This being their regular communication, there was no work, but the regular business of the Lodge. The W. Master offered to show a specimen of his skill; but having seen the same officers work on a former visit, and knowing their ability, I did not deem it necessary. Received the returns and dues for the Grand Lodge.

November 2, visited Olive Branch Lodge, Grafton. Installed the officers for the ensuing year, and received the returns and dues for the Grand Lodge.

November 3, visited Oxford Lodge. This visit was on election day, it being the only time that I could attend. Examined the records of the Lodge throughout; the returns were not made out; but have since been received.

November 6, visited John Warren Lodge, Haverhill. Installed the officers for the ensuing year, and received the returns and dues for the Grand Lodge.

November 7, visited Excelsior Lodge, Franklin.

work on the Third Degree, which was very well
think that this Lodge has improved so much in its
ring the last year, that if R.W. Br. Gay were to
ow, he would hardly think that it could be the same
at he visited one year ago. I received the returns
for the Grand Lodge.

ber 9, visited Mount Hollis Lodge, Holliston.
ing no candidate present, the meeting was a social
enjoyed by all present. I received the returns and
the Grand Lodge. I have examined the records
e Lodges in this District, and believe the business
been correctly done.

e made no official visit to Montgomery Lodge, it
e Lodge of which I am a member, I did not think
official visit (from me) was necessary. I cannot
this report, however, without giving to this Lodge
se of being one of the best, *if not the best*,
Lodge in the Twelfth District. By the returns, we
following to have been the number of initiates dur-
ear, and the number of members returned by the
Lodges : —

Names.	Initiates.	Members.
on's Temple Lodge,	11 . .	98
er "	14 . .	94
" "	5 . .	45
Stone River "	10 . .	87
lin "	10 . .	70
omery "	27 . .	164
Branch "	7 . .	96
l "	5 . .	50
Warren "	7 . .	74
ior "	16 . .	56
Hollis "	16 . .	70
Total	128 . .	904

Thus we find that the number of initiates in this District for the past year is one hundred and twenty-eight, and the present number of members nine hundred and four.

In conclusion, allow me to thank you for the honor of being continued as one of your Deputies, and the brethren of the Twelfth District for the very courteous and fraternal manner in which I have ever been received by them, as your Deputy. Not wishing to be considered as a candidate for re-appointment,

I remain very truly and fraternally yours,

HENRY C. SKINNER,

D.D.G.M. Twelfth Masonic District.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I herewith submit my official Report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Thirteenth Masonic District, for the year ending on the 27th inst.

I have visited officially every Lodge in the District, and am happy to report a good degree of prosperity throughout the jurisdiction assigned me. A careful inspection of the work and the Records of the several Lodges has shown a commendable degree of accuracy, while the kindness and good will, with which such criticisms as I have felt called upon to make, have been received, has evinced a determination to excel, which has been very gratifying to me.

below a tabular statement of the work done in the
Lodges : —

Lodge.	Initiates.	Members.
.....	12	117
David	16	181
Star	5	85
ans	15	118
.....	18	95
ill	2	39
es	10	64
ark	13	55
Baylies	15	72
.....	9	51
an	4	44
Total	119	921

January, last I received for distribution a package of
from the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge,
an urgent appeal to every affiliated Mason within
District to commute his *per capita* tax of one dollar
for thirteen years, by the immediate payment of nine
These circulars, as also those of similar purport
October last by a committee of the Grand Lodge
for that purpose, were placed in the hands of every
the District, and I have lost no opportunity in my
efforts of urging upon the brethren the great impor-
tance of a generous response. It gives me great pleasure to
report that, up to this time, about one-third of the whole
of affiliated Masons in the District have commuted,
and that the matter is still being agitated in many of
the Districts with excellent prospects for further returns at an
early day.
The cordial reception and the generous hospitality
shown to me by the several Lodges, I desire to express to

them my hearty thanks. It is this that has made what otherwise might have proved an irksome task, a pleasant experience.

I also desire to acknowledge my indebtedness to those brethren who accompanied me in my official visitations, especially for their earnest co-operation with my efforts in behalf of the commutation of the tax.

In concluding this brief report, allow me to offer you my thanks for the honor conferred in my appointment, my congratulations on your honorable completion of a full constitutional term as Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, and my best wishes for your continued prosperity.

I remain truly and fraternally yours,

J. MASON EVERETT,

D.D.G.M. Thirteenth Masonic District.

CANTON, Dec. 22, 1868.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DAME, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—In accepting the office to which you was pleased to appoint me, I had my misgivings as to my ability to perform its duties in a manner that would be acceptable to you or satisfactory to myself; and if in the discharge of those duties I have been over zealous, it was from an earnest desire to do what I could to carry out your instructions.

after my appointment, I placed myself in communication either in person or by letter, with each Lodge in the District, distributing the circulars issued by the Standing Committee, and endeavored, as best I could, to impress upon the members of the Fraternity the importance of a compliance with the request. In some instances, I met with a hearty response, but regret to say that in the larger proportions of the District a satisfactory answer could be obtained. I found a few members who utterly refused to pay the annual tax; some of these names will be found upon the Lodge Report. I have no objection to think that the refusal arose more from the want of information than otherwise.

Some of the Lodges in the District have the impression that they are simply the agents of the Grand Body for the collection of their tax from the membership, and they are responsible to the Grand Lodge for what they collect, and others, having a right view of the matter, as I think, have paid the whole tax, and paid the full amount; others have paid only a portion of the tax. I would suggest that, at the next session of the Grand Lodge, some general rule be proposed or adopted, to govern all such cases.

As to some of the Lodges, it ought to be said that a number of their members are absent at sea, and others are gone for a number of years; and there is much doubt or uncertainty as to their return in a reasonable time. Besides, many of the old Lodges have quite a number of members upon their books of whom they know nothing, not having heard from them for years; and they often express an unwillingness to assume the tax for this

class of members. I have granted but few Dispensations to confer the Degrees in less than the constitutional period, and would urge the suggestion, which has often been made, that a fee be required by the Grand Lodge whenever such Dispensations are granted.

I have made an official visit to each Lodge in the District once, and some of them two and three times. As a general thing there is a conformity to Grand Lodge work. In some cases I found some variations. Not fully understanding my authority in such cases, I allowed them to pass with slight notice.

The following table will show the number of initiates the past year, and the whole number of members, September 1, 1868 : —

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Marine	Falmouth	1	45
Martha's Vineyard .	Tisbury	3	82
Pythagorean	Marion	8	49
Pioneer	Somerset	9	88
Oriental	Edgartown	2	28
May Flower	Middleboro'	11	80
King Philip	Fall River	13	88
Eureka	New Bedford	19	174
Star in the East . .	New Bedford	20	325
Mount Hope	Fall River	19	194
Total		104	1,151

Notwithstanding some differences of opinion upon the subject of "taxation," my visits have been made very pleasant by the courteous manner in which I have been received as your representative.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

R. C. BROWN,

D.D.G.M. Fourteenth Masonic District.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

ES C. DAME, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

SIR AND BROTHER, — Having been honored by your appointment of District Deputy Grand Master for the Fifteenth Masonic District, I most respectfully submit my First Annual Report of the condition and standing of the several Lodges comprising this District for the year ending Sept. 1, 1868. It has been my privilege to visit and call on all the Lodges in the District once, and, by invitation, I have visited several of the Lodges for the purpose of inspecting the officers, and in every instance I have been received with all the cordiality and respect due me as the representative of the Grand Lodge, and with that personal attention that has made all my visits pleasant and agreeable. I have witnessed the exemplification of work in the several Lodges, and am happy to state that it will compare favorably in point of accuracy with other Districts in the jurisdiction. During my visits to the Lodges, I have endeavored to impress upon the minds of the brethren the necessity of promptly conforming to the order and decree of the Grand Lodge, and the advantage to the Grand Lodge of the provision which requires the Grand Lodge tax by paying in advance the sum of ten dollars; and am happy to say that, with but few exceptions, I find the members ready and willing to respond to the call. Many more would have commuted, but for the fact that the secretaries cannot reach them by notices, as a large proportion of the members follow the sea on foreign

long voyages and whaling voyages, who, when at home, are among the first to discharge all duties and obligations of that character. If, therefore, the average of this District is below that of others in commuting in proportion to its members, their peculiar circumstances and calling must be their excuse. In reference to the exceptions, or those who have for a time complained or expressed themselves in any way hostile to the decree, I find it to be more from a want of a correct understanding of the wisdom, necessity, and justice of the act, and a proper reflection upon their duties and obligations, than from any lack of loyalty to the Grand Lodge or intended disobedience of its regulations; and, after a full explanation of all the facts, most of such acknowledge both its necessity and justice.

I also find that the most opposition or feeling exists in reference to the tax laid by the Grand Lodge, among those Lodges that have not been represented by their officers at the Communications of the Grand Lodge; and that when these Lodges have been represented by proxies, they have not always represented the true feeling of the Lodge, and have, in too many instances, misrepresented the doings of the Grand Lodge. I have, therefore, urged upon the officers of the Lodges the importance of attending the communications of the Grand Lodge, not only as a duty they owe to their Lodges, but that a correct knowledge of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge may be communicated to those who are entitled to receive them.

The following table will show the number of initiates and members of the several Lodges in this District for the year ending Sept. 1, 1868 :—

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Union	Nantucket	8	108
King Hiram	Provincetown	21	142
Fraternal	Hyannis	8	168
Social Harmony	Wareham	10	74
Mount Horeb	West Harwich	11	148
De Witt Clinton	Sandwich	12	52
Pilgrim	South Harwich	8	155
James Otis	Barnstable	16	48
Adams	Wellfleet	9	66
Total		98	951

Thanking you for the honor of the appointment,

I remain most truly and fraternally yours,

J. K. BAKER, JR.,

D.D.G.M. Fifteenth Masonic District.

DENNISPORT, Dec. 4, 1868.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

To CHARLES C. DANE, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor of submitting to you my Report of the condition of the Lodges composing the Sixteenth Masonic District. I do not deem it necessary to particularize each Lodge, as there has nothing occurred out of the usual order in either of them. All are in harmony, and doing a fair amount of work, not so much as in years past, but in my opinion as much as is beneficial. Great pains are taken in all of the Lodges, to have the work conform to that of the Grand Lodge, and as the members of

most of the Lodges are in the habit of visiting neighboring Lodges, it is very uniform throughout the District.

The following will show the membership and amount of work for the past year : —

Name of Lodge.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.
Old Colony . . .	Hingham . . .	2 . . .	84
Fellowship . . .	Bridgewater . . .	12 . . .	111
Rural	Quincy	13 . . .	127
Corner Stone . . .	Duxbury	7	57
Norfolk Union . . .	Randolph	1	62
Orphan's Hope . . .	Weymouth	5	158
Plymouth	Plymouth	4	106
Paul Revere	North Bridgewater	7	123
John Cutler	Abington	11	129
Konohassett	Cohasset	9	61
Total		71	1,018

My intercourse with the Lodges has been very pleasant. All my visits have been made as agreeable to me as possible by the officers and members, and I am much indebted to many of the Past Masters for the assistance they have rendered me in the discharge of my duties.

Thanking you for the honor conferred,

I remain truly and fraternally yours,

Z. L. BICKNELL,

D.D.G.M. Sixteenth Masonic District.

WYOMOUTH, Dec. 1868.

RECAPITULATION.

	Members.	Initiates.
o. 1.	2,446	184
o. 2.	1,407	162
o. 3.	1,276	126
o. 4.	1,111	128
o. 5.	1,183	186
o. 6.	1,264	137
o. 7.	961	96
o. 8.	747	82
o. 9.	707	89
o. 10.	1,191	166
o. 11.	1,176	151
o. 12.	904	128
o. 13.	921	119
o. 14.	1,151	104
o. 15.	951	98
o. 16.	1,018	71
Under Dispensation		132
Total	18,864	2,094

LIST OF LODGES.

LIST OF LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,

ACCORDING TO DISTRICTS.

DISTRICT No. I. (BOSTON.)

W. ANDREW G. SMITH, OF BOSTON, D.D.G.M.

<p> Boston (1733). ew's, Boston (1756). SETTS, Boston (1770). N, Boston (1796). EBANON, Boston (1801). , Boston (1856). </p>	<p> WINSLOW LEWIS, Boston (1856). REVERE, Boston (1856). JOSEPH WARREN, Boston (1857). ABERDOUR, Boston (1861). ELEUSIS, Boston (1865). ZETLAND, Boston (1868). </p>
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DISTRICT No. II. (CHARLESTOWN.)

TRACY P CHEEVER, OF CHELSEA, D.D.G.M.

<p> OMON's, Charlestown (1782). ington (1797). ARMEL, Lynn (1805). ETHLEHEM, Chelsea (1843). ERMON, Medford (1855). Melrose (1857). ICE, Charlestown (1858). </p>	<p> MOUNT VERNON, Malden (1858). JOHN ABBOT, Somerville (1858). GOLDEN FLEECE, Lynn (1865). WILLIAM SUTTON, Saugus (1867). ROBERT LASH, Chelsea (1867). FAITH, Charlestown (U.D.). PALESTINE, So. Malden (U.D.). </p>
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DISTRICT No. III. (BOSTON HIGHLANDS.)

R.W. BENJAMIN POPE, OF SOUTH BOSTON, D.D.G.M.

UNION, Dorchester (1796).

WASHINGTON, Boston Highlands
(1797).

MOUNT TABOR, East Boston (1846).

ST. PAUL, South Boston (1847).

BAALBEC, East Boston (1853).

GATE OF THE TEMPLE, South Boston
(1856).

HAMMATT, East Boston (1860).

LAFAYETTE, Boston Highlands
(1866).

ADELPHI, South Boston (1866).

ELIOT, West Roxbury (1867).

RABBONI, South Boston (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. IV. (CAMBRIDGE.)

R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP, OF BRIGHTON, D.D.G.M.

CORINTHIAN, Concord (1797).

MERIDIAN, Natick (1797).

AMICABLE, Cambridge (1805).

BETHESDA, Brighton (1819).

MONITOR, Waltham (1820).

PUTNAM, East Cambridge (1854).

PEQUOSSETTE, Watertown (1857).

DALHOUSIE, Newtonville (1861).

MOUNT OLIVET, Cambridge (1864).

BELMONT, Belmont (1865).

ISAAC PARKER, Waltham (1868).

MIZPAH, Cambridgeport (1868).

DISTRICT No. V. (SALEM.)

R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON, OF SALEM, D.D.G.M.

PHILANTHROPIC, Marblehead (1760).

TYRIAN, Gloucester (1770).

ESSEX, SALEM (1779).

JORDAN, South Danvers (1808).

LIBERTY, Beverly (1824).

ASHLER, Rockport (1852).

AMITY, Danvers (1863).

STARR KING, Salem (1865).

JOHN T. HEARD, Ipswich (1865).

ACACIA, Gloucester (1866).

DISTRICT No. VI. (NEWBURYPORT.)

R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP, OF LAWRENCE, D.D.G.M.

ST. JOHN'S, Newburyport (1766).

MERRIMAC, Haverhill (1802).

ST. MARK'S, Newburyport (1803).

WARREN, Amesbury (1822).

ST. MATTHEW'S, Andover (1822).

GRECIAN, Lawrence (1825).

JOHN HANCOCK, Methuen (1860).

TUSCAN, Lawrence (1863).

SAGGAHEW, Haverhill (1865).

CHARLES C. DAME, Georgetown (1867).

BETHANY, West Amesbury (U.D.).

DISTRICT No. VII. (LOWELL.)

R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS, OF LOWELL, D.D.G.M.

ST. PAUL's, Groton (1797).	CALEB BUTLER, Groton Junc. (1859).
AURORA, Fitchburg (1801).	WM. PARKMAN, Winchester (1865).
PENTUCKET, Lowell (1807).	CHAS. W. MOORE, Fitchburg (1866).
ANCIENT YORK, Lowell (1858).	KILWINNING, Lowell (1867).
MOUNT HORRE, Woburn (1855).	WILLIAM NORTH, Lowell (1868).

DISTRICT No. VIII. (GREENFIELD.)

R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK, OF ORANGE, D.D.G.M.

REPUBLICAN, Greenfield (1795).	ORANGE, Orange (1860).
HARMONY, Northfield (1796).	HOPE, Gardner (1865).
PACIFIC, Amherst (1801).	STAR, Athol (1865).
MOUNTAIN, Shelburne Falls (1806).	ARTISAN, Winchendon (1866).
BETHEL, Enfield (1825).	

DISTRICT No. IX. (PITTSFIELD.)

R.W. DANIEL UPTON, OF SOUTH ADAMS, D.D.G.M.

EVENING STAR, Lee (1795).	MYSTIC, Pittsfield (1810).
CINCINNATUS, G. Barrington (1795).	MOUNT MORIAH, Westfield (1856).
LAFAYETTE, North Adams (1796).	BERKSHIRE, South Adams (1858).
WISDOM, West Stockbridge (1803).	HUNTINGTON, Huntington (1867).

DISTRICT No. X. (SPRINGFIELD.)

R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS, OF NORTHAMPTON, D.D.G.M.

THOMAS, Palmer (1796).	DAY SPRING, Monson (1863).
JERUSALEM, Northampton (1797).	HAYDEN, Brookfield (1863).
HAMPDEN, Springfield (1817).	ROSWELL LEE, Springfield (1863).
CHICOPEN, Chicopee (1848).	EDEN, Ware (1865).
MOUNT TOM, Holyoke (1850).	IONIC, East Hampton (1868).
QUABOAG, Warren (1859).	

DISTRICT No. XI. (WORCESTER.)

R.W. CHARLES G. REED, OF WORCESTER, D.D.G.M.

MORNING STAR, Worcester (1798).	WILDER, Leominster (1860).
MOUNT ZION, Barre (1800).	DORIC, Hudson (1864).
TRINITY, Clinton (1858).	NORTH STAR, Ashland (1865).
MONTACUTE, Worcester (1859).	ATHELSTONE, Worcester (1866).
UNITED BRETHREN, Marlboro' (1860.)	ST. BERNARD, Southboro' (1868).
QUINEBAUG, Southbridge (1860).	

DISTRICT No. XII. (MILFORD.)

R.W. GEORGE E. STACY, OF MILFORD, D.D.G.M.

MIDDLESEX, Framingham (1795).	WEBSTER, Webster (1859).
MONTGOMERY, Milford (1797).	OXFORD, Oxford (1860).
OLIVE BRANCH, Sutton (1797).	JOHN WARREN, Hopkinton (1861).
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE, Uxbridge (1818).	MOUNT HOLLIS, Holliston (1865).
FRANKLIN, Grafton (1852).	SILAM, Westboro' (1867).
BLACKSTONE RIVER, Blackstone (1856).	EXCELSIOR, Franklin (1867).

DISTRICT No. XIII. (TAUNTON.)

R.W. J. MASON EVERETT, OF CANTON, D.D.G.M.

BRISTOL, Attleboro' (1797)	ST. JAMES, Mansfield (1865).
KING DAVID, Taunton (1798).	ALFRED BAYLIES, Taunton (1866).
RISING STAR, Stoughton (1799).	HYDE PARK, Hyde Park (1866).
ST. ALBAN'S, Foxboro' (1818).	IONIC, Taunton (1867).
ORIENT, South Dedham (1862).	PAUL DEAN, N. Easton (1868).
BLUE HILL, Canton (1864).	

DISTRICT No. XIV. (NEW BEDFORD.)

R.W. JOHN A. LEE, OF NEW BEDFORD, D.D.G.M.

MARINE, Falmouth (1798).	PYTHAGORIAN, Marion (1863).
STAR IN THE EAST, New Bedford (1823).	PIONEER, Somerset (1864).
MOUNT HOPE, Fall River (1824).	MAYFLOWER, Middleboro' (1865).
EUREKA, New Bedford (1858).	KING PHILIP, Fall River (1866).
MARTHA'S VINEYARD, Tisbury (1860).	ORIENTAL, Edgartown (1867).

DISTRICT No. XV. (BARNSTABLE.)

R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, JR., OF DENNISPORT, D.D.G.M.

UNION, Nantucket (1771).

KING HIRAM, Provincetown (1796).

FRATERNAL, Hyannis (1801).

SOCIAL HARMONY, Wareham (1828).

MT. HOREB, West Harwich (1855.)

DEWITT CLINTON, Sandwich (1856.)

PILGRIM, South Harwich (1860).

JAMES OTIS, Barnstable (1866).

ADAMS, Wellfleet (1866).

DISTRICT No. XVI. (PLYMOUTH.)

R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL, OF WEYMOUTH, D.D.G.M.

OLD COLONY, Hingham (1792).

FELLOWSHIP, Bridgewater (1797).

RURAL, Quincy (1801).

CORNER STONE, Duxbury (1808).

NORFOLK UNION, Randolph (1819).

ORPHANS' HOPE, Weymouth (1825).

PLYMOUTH, Plymouth (1825).

PAUL REVERE, North Bridgewater
(1857).

JOHN CUTLER, Abington (1860);

KONOHASSETT, Cohasset (1866).

DELTA, Weymouth (U.D.).

GEORGE H. KENDALL, DEPUTY FOR CHILI, S.A.

BETHESDA, Valparaiso, South America
(1854).HIRAM OF COPIAPO, Copiapo, Chili.
S. A. (1858).

T. B. EAMES, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR CHINA.

ANCIENT LANDMARK OF HONG QUE, Shanghai (1864).

RICHARD H. HARTLEY, LIMA, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR
PERU.

J. L. HUTCHINSON LODGE, At Arica.

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF

LODGES, LOCATION, AND SECRETARIES.

Lodge.	Location.	Secretary.
Aberdour	Boston	Sidney Cushing.
Adelphi	South Boston	William C. Culver.
Amicable	Cambridgeport	Charles Tufts.
Amity	Danvers	T. C. Everett.
Ashler	Rockport	Eben Blatchford.
Ancient York	Lowell	Richard W. Baker.
Aurora	Fitchburg	Henry F. Piper.
Artisan	Winchendon	David H. Barnes.
Athelstane	Worcester	Charles Hartwell.
Alfred Baylies	Taunton	Bartlett C. Pierce.
Adams	Wellfleet	G. W. Holbrook.
Acacia	Gloucester	A. Mansfield, jr.
Baalbec	East Boston	Edward F. Brigham.
Bethesda	Brighton	J. T. Needham.
Belmont	Belmont	William W. Mead.
Bethel	Enfield	Charles Richards.
Berkshire	South Adams	James C. Chalker.
Blackstone River	Blackstone	George H. Bates.
Bristol	Attleboro'	John T. Bates.
Blue Hill	Canton	William Bense.
Columbian	Boston	William Martin.
Corinthian	Concord	L. Willis Bean.
Caleb Butler	Groton Junction	A. F. Colburn.
Charles W. Moore	Fitchburg	Henry Allison.
Cincinnatus	Great Barrington	Samuel Camp.

Chicopee	Chicopee	Moses C. Hadley.
Corner Stone	Duxbury	J. S. Loring.
Charles C. Dame	Georgetown	Milton G. Tenney.
Dalhousie	Newtonville	H. F. Allen.
Day Spring	Monson	E. F. Morris.
Doric	Hudson	Charles A. Wood.
DeWitt Clinton	Sandwich	Robert C. Clark.
Eleusis	Boston	George L. Roberts.
Eliot	Jamaica Plain	P. E. Burtchaell.
Essex	Salem	Ira K. Mansfield.
Evening Star	Lee	A. Bradley.
Eden	Ware	George Eddy.
Excelsior	Franklin	Joseph P. Day.
Eureka	New Bedford	H. W. Emerson.
Franklin	Grafton	H. C. Greenwood.
Fraternal	Hyannis	O. C. Hoxie.
Fellowship	Bridgewater	W. H. Churchill.
Germania	Boston	F. Blocklinger.
Golden Fleece	Lynn	William B. Phillips.
Gate of the Temple	South Boston	William H. Ruddick.
Grecian	Lawrence	Joseph H. Safford.
Hammatt	East Boston	George Butts.
Henry Price	Charlestown	C. A. Winslow.
Hiram	Arlington	Milan R. Hardy.
Hope	Gardner	George Greenwood.
Harmony	Northfield	Jona. A. Barber.
Hampden	Springfield	P. S. Bailey.
Hayden	Brookfield	William F. Hayden.
Hyde Park	Dorchester	C. A. Jordan.
Huntington	Huntington	Edward G. Munson.
Ionic	Taunton	Isaac C. Howland.
Ionic	East Hampton	George S. Clark.
Isaac Parker	Waltham	W. H. Graves.
Joseph Warren	Boston	Ivory H. Pope.
Jordan	Peabody	Lewis A. Manning.
John Hancock	Methuen	Darius Pierce.
Jerusalem	Northampton	David E. Phillips.
John Warren	Hopkinton	J. H. Blades.
James Otis	Barnstable	O. M. Hinckley.
John T. Heard	Ipswich	Charles H. Howe.
John Abbot	Somerville	George A. Pratt.
John Cutler	Abington	E. M. Nash.
King Solomon's	Charlestown	George H. Marden.
Kilwinning	Lowell	Charles A. Kendall.
King David	Taunton	Harrie A. Cushman.

King Philip	Fall River	Robert A. Brown.
King Hiram	Provincetown	Albert Sweetser.
Konohassett	Cohasset	Thomas C. Brown.
Lafayette	Roxbury	Frederick Beck.
Liberty	Beverly	James H. Kendall.
Lafayette	North Adams	William T. Mole.
Massachusetts	Boston	W. H. Hawkes.
Mount Lebanon	Boston	Thomas Waterman.
Mount Tabor	East Boston	William D. Barrett.
Mount Carmel	Lynn	Henry C. Oliver.
Mount Hermon	Medford	P. R. Litchfield.
Mount Vernon	Malden	Henry E. Turner, jr.
Middlesex	Framingham	C. J. Frost.
Meridian	Natick	E. W. Cozzens.
Mount Olivet	Cambridge	Ed. D. Harris.
Monitor	Waltham	Thomas Kirke.
Merrimac	Haverhill	Charles Blanchard.
Mount Horeb	Woburn	Sparrow Horton.
Mountain	Shelburne Falls	Osborn H. Pierce.
Mount Moriah	Westfield	James R. Gladwin.
Mystic	Pittsfield	E. C. Crufts.
Mount Tom	Holyoke	H. L. Wheeler.
Mount Zion	Barre	Henry J. Shattuck.
Morning Star	Worcester	H. W. Reid.
Montacute	Worcester	G. Edward Smith.
Montgomery	Milford	Lewis Fales.
Mount Hollis	Holliston	J. D. Shipper.
Marine	Falmouth	W. H. Hewins.
Mount Hope	Fall River	Augustus B. Leonard.
Martha's Vineyard	Tisbury	A. W. Smith.
May Flower	Middleboro'	J. B. Shaw.
Mount Horeb	West Harwich	William H. Lewis.
Mizpah	Cambridgeport	Seymour B. Snow.
North Star	Ashland	Frank A. Wall.
Norfolk Union	Randolph	F. A. Belcher.
Orange	Orange	John C. Felt.
Olive Branch	Millbury	E. A. Sumner.
Oxford	Oxford	John E. Hammond.
Orient	South Dedham	M. W. Sanborn.
Oriental	Edgartown	Tristram R. Holley.
Old Colony	Hingham	C. W. S. Seymour.
Orphans' Hope	Weymouth	C. H. Pratt.
Pequossette	Watertown	Robert F. Horne.
Putnam	East Cambridge	Luther L. Parker.
Pentucket	Lowell	Eliphalet Hills.

Pacific	Amherst	Elisha B. Hubbard.
Pythagorean	Marion	Charles H. Briggs.
Pioneer	Somerset	Geo. W. Cobb, jr.
Pilgrim	Harwich	Theophilus Baker.
Plymouth	Plymouth	Josiah R. Drew.
Paul Revere	North Bridgewater	Jonas R. Perkins.
Paul Dean	North Easton	E. R. Hayward.
Philanthropic	Marblehead	S. P. Hathaway, jr.
Quaboag	Warren	W. P. Cowee.
Quinnebaug	Southbridge	Thomas Cocroft.
Revere	Boston	William W. Baker.
Republican	Greenfield	J. G. Wilson.
Roswell Lee	Springfield	H. M. Phillips.
Rising Star	Stoughton	Washington Tower, jr.
Rural	Quincy	S. Dewing, jr.
Robert Lash	Chelsea	R. S. Owen.
St. John's	Boston	Solon Thornton.
St. Andrew's	Boston	A. A. Wellington.
Star of Bethlehem	Chelsea	C. A. Blanchard.
St. Paul's	South Boston	Horace Smith.
Starr King	Salem	William B. Upton.
St. John's	Newburyport	Nathaniel Greeley.
St. Mark's	Newburyport	Daniel P. Pike.
St. Matthew's	Andover	George H. Parker.
Saggahew	Haverhill	Leonard H. Flanders.
St. Paul's	Groton	A. S. Lawrence.
Star	Athol	John H. Williams.
Solomon's Temple	Uxbridge	Daniel W. Taft.
Siloam	Westboro'	Charles H. Pierce.
St. James	Mansfield	Ellis Fairbanks.
St. Albans	Foxboro'	E. W. Clarke.
Star in the East	New Bedford	James C. Hitch.
Social Harmony	Wareham	Miron B. Hoyt.
St. Bernard's	Southboro'	Henry S. Wheeler.
Tyrian	Gloucester	Addison Carter.
Tuscan	Lawrence	P. B. Robinson.
Thomas	Palmer	A. H. Willis.
Trinity	Clinton	Charles W. Dinsmore.
Union	Dorchester	Thomas F. Temple.
United Brethren	Marlboro'	F. Jewett.
Union	Nantucket	Charles P. Swain.
Winslow Lewis	Boston	George L. Andrews.
Wyoming	Melrose	G. C. Stantial.
Washington	Boston Highlands	George F. Davia.
Warren	Amesbury	Philip Osgood.

William Parkman	Winchester	H. W. Hight.
Wisdom	West Stockbridge . .	Charles W. Kniffin.
Wilder	Leominster	G. F. Morse.
Webster	Webster	Horace S. Briggs.
William Sutton . .	Saugus	Dennis S. Newhall.
William North . .	Lowell	George A. Priest.
Zetland	Boston	George R. Rogers.
Ancient Landmark of Hong Que, Shanghai.		
Bethesda	Valparaiso, S.A.	
Hiram of Copiapo . .	Chili, S.A.	
J. L. Hutchinson . .	Arica, Peru, S.A.	

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

PERMANENT MEMBERS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Past Grand Masters.

RT. REV. GEORGE M. RANDALL, D.D.	5851.
WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	5854.
JOHN T. HEARD	5857.
WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	5861.
WILLIAM PARKMAN	5863.
CHARLES C. DAME	5866.

Past Deputy Grand Masters.

ABRAHAM A. DAME	5832.
GEORGE G. SMITH	5837.
REV. E. M. P. WELLS, D.D.	5844.
REV. LUCIUS R. PAGE, D.D.	5851.
ABRAHAM T. LOWE, M.D.	5854.
CHARLES R. TRAIN	5859.
J. V. C. SMITH, M.D.	5860.
G. W. WARREN	5861.
MARSHALL P. WILDER	5862.
SERENO D. NICKERSON	5866.
NEWELL A. THOMPSON	5867.
CHARLES W. MOORE	5868.

THOMAS TOLMAN
DANIEL HARWOOD, M.D.
RICHARD S. SPOFFORD, M.D.
WILLIAM C. PLUNKETT
BRADFORD L. WALES, M.D.
HENRY GODDARD
LORENZO H. GAMWELL
JOEL SPALDING, M.D.
WILLIAM NORTH
HENRY CHICKERING
WILLIAM W. BAKER
WILLIAM S. GARDNER
WENDELL T. DAVIS
WILLIAM SUTTON
SAMUEL P. OLIVER
WILLIAM F. SALMON

JOHN HEWS
WILLIAM EATON
JOHN FLINT, M.D.
JONAS A. MARSHALL, M.D.
SAMUEL K HUTCHINSON
JOHN H. SHEPPARD
ISAAC HULL WRIGHT
CHARLES ROBBINS
PETER C. JONES
DANIEL REYNOLDS
BENJAMIN DEAN
SOLON THORNTON
WYZEMAN MARSHALL
HENRY MULLIKEN
GEORGE H. TABER

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS:

**WILLIAM S. GARDNER,
27 TREMONT ROW,
Boston, Mass.**

GRAND SECRETARY'S ADDRESS:

**SOLON THORNTON,
Boston, Mass.**

2

CONSTITUTIONS

OF THE

Free Masons
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AND

GENERAL REGULATIONS

FOR

The Government of the Craft under its Jurisdiction.

BOSTON:
PRESS OF EDWARD S. COOMBS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.
1869.

1870, Apr. 1.
Gift of
Wm. L. Gardner,
of Boston.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINE.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE MASTER, WARDENS, AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows : —

SECT. 1. — JOHN T. HEARD, Grand Master, and his associates, the Grand Wardens and Members of the Voluntary Association known as the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Massachusetts, and their successors, are hereby incorporated, and made a body politic, by the name of "THE MASTER, WARDENS, AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS," for the purpose of managing and administering the Charity funds belonging to said voluntary association, with power to have a common seal, to sue and be sued, to make and ordain, from time to time, By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations, for the government and management of the Corporation, provided the same be not repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth ; and that they have all the privileges, and be subject to all the liabilities set forth in the forty-fourth Chapter of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable to Corporations for charitable purposes.

SECT. 2. — The said Corporation may take by purchase, gift, grant, or otherwise, and hold Real Estate not exceeding the value of *Two Hundred Thousand Dollars* [since increased to *Five Hundred Thousand Dollars*], and personal estate not exceeding the value of *Fifty Thousand Dollars*.

SECT. 3. — John T. Heard is hereby authorized to call the first meeting of said Corporation, by advertisement in two newspapers printed in Boston one week previous thereto, and appoint the time and place thereof, at which meeting the mode of calling future meetings shall be regulated.

SECT. 4. — This Act shall take effect on and after its passage.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 1, 1859.

Passed to be enacted.

CHARLES HALE, *Speaker*.

IN SENATE March 1, 1859.

Passed to be enacted.

CHARLES A. PHELPS, *President*.

MARCH, 1, 1859.

Approved.

N. P. BANKS.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT, Boston, March 2, 1859.

A true copy.

Attest,

OLIVER WARNER.

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

CONSTITUTIONS

OF THE

AND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

P R E A M B L E.

WHEREAS, the voluntary association known by the title of "THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF T, FREE, AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS," having obtained and an Act of Incorporation from the General Court of Massachusetts, dated March 1, 1859, with power "to ordain from time to time By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations for the government and management of the Lodge, provided the same be not repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of this Commonwealth":
Therefore, the said Grand Lodge doth hereby ordain, and promulgate the following as the By-Laws, Regulations of the Master, Wardens, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.

Part First.

ARTICLE I.

SEAL. — BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



SECT. 1. — That the Seal heretofore used by the Grand Lodge, when acting as a voluntary association, shall be the Seal of the Corporation, to be kept and used by the Recording Grand Secretary.

SECT. 2. — The Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, and Recording Grand Secretary, and five other members, to be elected at large, be and hereby are constituted a Board of Directors, with full power to do and transact any and all business of the Corporation, in any way relating to its property, real or personal. The Grand Master, or, in case of his absence or disability, the Senior Grand Warden, or, in the absence of the latter, the Junior Grand Warden, — to be the presiding officer of such Board, and the Recording Grand Secretary to be its recording officer. Meetings of said Board to be called and notified in such manner and at such times as they shall determine; and the action of a majority of the Board to be binding; said Board, however, to be at all times subject to the direction of the Corporation.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS. — RANK AND TITLES.

1. — The Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge and their rank and titles, shall be as follows : —

Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

“ “ Senior Grand Warden.

“ “ Junior Grand Warden.

“ “ Past Grand Masters.

“ “ Past Deputy Grand Masters.

“ “ Past Grand Wardens.

“ “ Grand Treasurer.

“ “ Recording Grand Secretary.

“ “ Corresponding Grand Secretary.

“ “ District Deputy Grand Masters.

Worshipful and Reverend Grand Chaplains.

“ Grand Marshal.

“ Grand Senior Deacon.

“ Grand Junior Deacon.

“ Grand Stewards.

“ Grand Sword-Bearer.

“ Grand Standard-Bearer.

“ Grand Pursuivants.

“ Grand Lecturers.

Another Grand Organist.

Another Grand Tyler.

whom, together with the Worshipful Masters, the Senior and Junior Wardens, and Proxies of Lodges, under the same jurisdiction, shall be entitled to vote as members of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Organist and Grand Tyler excepted.

ARTICLE III.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING.

SECT. 1. — The Regular Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the city of Boston, on the second Wednesday in December, March, June, and September, at 2 o'clock, P.M. There shall also be a Communication held annually on the 27th of December, commencing at 6 o'clock in the evening, for the Installation of the Grand Officers and the celebration of the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist.

SECT. 2. — The meetings of the Grand Lodge, whether regular or special, shall be notified by publication in one or more newspapers printed in the city of Boston; such publication to be at least one week prior to the time appointed for holding such meetings. Special meetings may be called at pleasure by the presiding officer of the Corporation, or by vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV.

POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

SECT. 1. — By the ancient Constitutions and usages of Freemasonry, the Grand Lodge, as the supreme masonic authority in this Commonwealth, is invested with certain original, essential, and unalterable powers and privileges. Among these is the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Craft, and of altering, repealing, and abrogating them; of establishing and preserving a

uniform system of Work and Lectures ; of issuing Dispensations and Charters for new Lodges, and of suspending or revoking the same for unmasonic conduct, the non-observance of the Regulations of this Grand Lodge, the non-payment of dues, or other neglect of duty.

SECT. 2. — The Grand Lodge has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular Lodges, or to individual brothers ; which power it may exercise either by itself or by such delegated authority as, in its wisdom and discretion, it may appoint ; but in the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of revoking the Charter of Lodges and expelling brethren from the Craft.

ARTICLE V.

QUALIFICATIONS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — No brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Recording Grand Secretary, Corresponding Grand Secretary, or District Deputy Grand Master, unless he be a Past Master of a subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of some Grand Lodge, or has heretofore held one of the aforesaid offices in this Grand Lodge ; and neither of the officers here specially enumerated shall, during his continuance in office, be Master or Warden of a subordinate Lodge.

SECT. 2. — No brother shall be eligible to an office in Grand Lodge except he be a permanent member thereof, or a member of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VI.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — The Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Recording Grand Secretary shall be elected by ballot, on the second Wednesday in December, annually; the election to commence at 3 o'clock, P.M. Two-thirds of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice for Grand Master and Grand Wardens; a majority for the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

SECT. 2. — In case of the death, resignation, or declination of any of the above Grand Officers, the Grand Lodge may proceed to elect and install a successor at any regular communication after such event.

SECT. 3. — The Grand Master shall not be eligible for more than three years successively, except by unanimous vote of Grand Lodge, taken by ballot, at the annual meeting, on the question of re-nomination. If the ballot be clear in the affirmative, he may again be put in nomination for re-election.

SECT. 4. — The Grand Wardens shall be subject to the same regulation as in the case of Grand Master, except that the Junior Grand Warden may be advanced to the rank of Senior Grand Warden.

SECT. 5. — All Grand Officers not herein designated for election shall be appointed by the Grand Master.

SECT. 6. — In all elections by ballot, every member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to one vote, and one only, unless he be a representative of a subordinate Lodge. A member cannot delegate his right of voting to another.

SECT. 7. — No officer or permanent member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to more than one vote, unless he be also a Master or Warden of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction. A permanent member, resuming office in Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to one vote only.

ARTICLE VII.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — The officers of the Grand Lodge, elected and appointed, shall be annually installed on the ensuing anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. When that festival shall happen on a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, the installation shall take place on the following Tuesday. The Grand Master shall be installed by his immediate predecessor; or, in his absence, by the Senior Past Grand Master present; and in the absence of such Past Grand Master, by the Senior Past Master present.

SECT. 2. — In case the Grand Master elect cannot attend at the time appointed for his installation, he may be installed by proxy, on signifying his acceptance of the office. But such proxy must be a Past Grand Master, or the Senior Past Master present.

SECT. 3. — The Grand Master, if present, shall install the elective officers and his Deputy. If absent, his proxy shall install the Deputy Grand Master, who shall install the remaining officers. The appointed officers may be installed by the Deputy Grand Master. In case of the absence of the Deputy Grand Master, either of the Grand Wardens, the Grand Treasurer, or Recording Grand Secretary, they may

be installed by proxies, who shall be past officers of corresponding rank, or Past Masters of subordinate Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge. The proxies for all other officers, except Grand Chaplain and Tyler, must also be members of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 4. — The several Grand Officers, previous to their installation, shall make the following declaration : —

“ I solemnly promise, upon the honor of a Mason, that, in the office of ———, I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the Constitutions and Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all other ancient masonic usages, so far as the same shall come to my knowledge.”

SECT. 5. — All Grand Officers, elected or appointed, when installed, shall be proclaimed by the Grand Marshal, and shall retain their stations until their successors are duly elected and installed.

SECT. 6. — No elected officer of the Grand Lodge, or of any subordinate Lodge, shall act as such until he is duly installed.

ARTICLE VIII.

POWER AND DUTY OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — The Grand Master enjoys all the powers and prerogatives conferred by the ancient Constitutions and the usages and landmarks of the Craft. He may convene any Lodge within his jurisdiction, preside therein (with his officers or otherwise), inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity with the regulations of the Grand Lodge; and for dereliction of duty, or other unmasonic conduct, he

may suspend a brother, or a Lodge, until the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he shall present the reasons for such suspension in writing. He may also grant dispensations for processions and conferring the degrees, and do all such other acts and deeds as are warranted or required of him by the regulations and the ancient usages of the Fraternity.

SECT. 2. — The Deputy Grand Master shall, in the absence of the Grand Master, preside in Grand Lodge, and perform such duties, and possess such authority, while the Grand Lodge is in session, as appertain to the Grand Master; and in case of the inability of the Grand Master, from sickness or other cause, to attend, he may, with the consent and approbation of the elective Grand Officers, call special meetings of the Grand Lodge, should the interest of the Craft, in their opinion, at any time require it. He may also, by permission of the Grand Master, in writing, call meetings of the Grand Officers, and such experienced brethren as they may think proper to invite, for consultation on matters relative to the Grand Lodge and its interests. All such meetings, however, not having the approbation of the Grand Master, shall be deemed irregular.

SECT. 3. — In case of the death or resignation of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall be, *ex officio*, Grand Master until a successor be chosen.

SECT. 4. — The Grand Wardens are to assist the Grand Master in the Grand Lodge, and, whenever required, are to attend him; and, while he presides in any particular subordinate Lodge, are to act there as his Wardens.

SECT. 5. — In the absence of the Junior Grand Warden,

the senior Past Grand Warden present shall wear his Jewel. In the absence of all Past Grand Wardens, the senior Past Master present shall act *pro tempore*.

SECT. 6. — In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden shall preside; and, in his absence, the Junior Grand Warden. In the absence of each of them, the Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens, according to seniority; and if no officer of either grade be present, the senior Past Master is to preside, unless he waive his right in favor of another brother, who is a Past Master. In either of these cases, the presiding officer (unless he be a Past Grand Master) shall wear the jewel of the Deputy Grand Master.

SECT. 7. — The Grand Treasurer shall have the charge of the personal property and funds of the Grand Lodge; shall give bonds for the faithful discharge of his trust, in such sum and with such sureties as the Grand Lodge shall require; and shall from time to time invest all unappropriated funds in his hands in such manner as the Board of Directors shall direct. He shall receive all moneys from the District Deputy Grand Masters, as well as all other moneys paid to the Grand Lodge; shall pay all bills passed by the Board of Directors; and shall have in his care all the regalia not entrusted to the Senior Grand Steward, and all charters, records, seals, and regalia returned to the Grand Lodge. He shall keep an accurate account of all money by him received and paid; and shall annually render an account thereof, with a schedule of the funds of the Grand Lodge, to the Board of Directors; shall deliver to his successor in office the funds and all other

property of the Grand Lodge entrusted to his care, taking duplicate receipts for the same, one of which receipts he shall deposit with the Recording Grand Secretary.

SECT. 8. — The Recording Grand Secretary shall give seasonable notice, in a public paper, of each regular communication of the Grand Lodge; and shall notify, by letter, all officers and permanent members of the Grand Lodge, together with the Master and Wardens of the subordinate Lodges through their respective Secretaries. Special meetings may be notified in the manner above provided. He shall make a correct record of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge; receive petitions, applications, and appeals, and lay them before the Grand Master; shall fill, attest, and affix the Grand Seal to all Warrants, Charters, Commissions, and Certificates, by order of the Grand Master; and shall keep a list of all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, according to seniority. He shall present the chairman of every committee with a copy of the vote of his appointment, and shall attend all committees, with such documents as are in his possession, when required; and record all reports of committees which may be accepted by the Grand Lodge. He shall annually, in the month of January, forward to each member of the Grand Lodge one, and to each District Deputy Grand Master such number of copies of the edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, which have been passed the preceding year, as shall be directed by the Grand Master, and all such other transactions of the Grand Lodge as may be necessary for the information and regulation of the subordinate Lodges, in which shall be included a correct list of the officers of the Grand Lodge, and District Deputy

Grand Masters, for the current year. He shall make a transcript of the records in the month of September annually, immediately after the Communication of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 9. — The Corresponding Grand Secretary shall, if required by the Grand Master, answer, under his direction, any foreign communication made to the Grand Lodge; and when present, if desired by the Grand Master, read all communications to the Grand Lodge. It shall also be his duty, from time to time, to lay before the Grand Lodge such matters of masonic interest as may come to his knowledge.

SECT. 10. — The District Deputy Grand Masters shall visit the Lodges in their respective Districts, and inspect their By-Laws, Records, and mode of Work, once a year at least, and before the last week in November; but, if they deem it for the interest of Masonry, they may delegate their duties in distant Lodges to some suitable brother. They shall have power to grant Dispensations for initiation, and in cases of emergency, for public processions; shall communicate to the Lodges all edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and furnish them with all such diplomas as they shall be entitled to; shall receive and receipt for all dues to the Grand Lodge; receive the returns of the Lodges and make their remarks thereon. They shall annually transmit their returns, and all moneys in their hands, to the Grand Treasurer, on or before the first day of December; and if they shall fail to comply with this regulation, unless prevented by sickness, or by some other cause beyond their control, they shall not be eligible to re-appointment. They shall be reimbursed their *necessary* expenses in visiting the Lodges; but shall present their accounts to the Board of

ers for allowance; and each District Deputy Grand
on receiving from the Grand Treasurer the jewel of
ce and the records of the District over which he is
ted, shall give to the Grand Treasurer a receipt in the
ng form, viz. : —

ereas, I, — — —, have been appointed and duly com-
ed District Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts, for the
Masonic District, and have received the collar and jewel
ining to said office, and the book of records of said Dis-
hereby promise to return the same, at the expiration or
on of my Commission, to the Treasurer of the Grand
of Massachusetts; and, in default thereof. I promise to
demand, to the order of said Treasurer, or whoever may
e office of Treasurer of said Grand Lodge, the sum of fifty

r. 11. — There shall be two Grand Chaplains ap-
by the Grand Master on the day of his installation,
shall attend the Quarterly Communications and other
gs of the Grand Lodge, and perform such clerical
as are suitable to the occasion and as are established
usages of the Fraternity.

r. 12. — The Grand Marshal shall direct the organi-
of the Grand Lodge before it is opened; collect from
nbers and petitioners in the Grand Lodge all com-
tions, and place them before the Grand Secretary;
and introduce visitors, direct the formation of processions,
Lodges at every Communication, and communicate
ecute all commands of the Grand Master not otherwise
d for.

r. 13. — The Grand Deacons are to communicate

messages, and attend the Grand Master in all processions; and in the absence of either of them, the Grand Master shall appoint a member to act *pro tempore*.

SECT. 14. — There shall be four Grand Stewards annually appointed. The Senior Grand Steward shall have in his charge all the jewels, clothing, and furniture of the Grand Lodge; and at the Annual Communication, and previous to the choice of officers, he shall render an accurate inventory of everything committed to his care, shall deliver the same to his successor in office, taking duplicate receipts therefor, one of which receipts he shall deposit with the Grand Treasurer. He shall, with the assistance of his brother Stewards, properly distribute the jewels and clothing, and collect the same at the closing of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 15. — The Grand Sword-Bearer shall take rank as assistant Grand Marshal, and, in the absence of his principal, shall act as his substitute.

SECT. 16. — There shall be two Grand Pursuivants annually appointed. Their station shall be at the inner door of the Grand Lodge; and it shall be their duty to attend to the admission of the officers, members, and visitors; to see that they appear in Grand Lodge suitably clothed, and, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, that they take their proper stations. They shall also assist the Grand Marshal, and precede in all public processions of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 17. — There shall be three Grand Lecturers, being Past Masters, annually appointed, whose duty it shall be to exemplify the Work and Lectures of the several degrees, before the Grand Lodge, on the Thursday following the Annual Communication in December, in each year, for the benefit of

brethren generally. They shall also impart instruction to any Lodge requiring their services, — the Lodge paying a reasonable compensation therefor. It shall also be the duty to visit and instruct any Lodge, under this jurisdiction, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, whenever it shall be deemed to appear to the satisfaction of the Grand Master that said Lodge is unable to bear the expense; and they shall report to the Grand Master, in writing, whenever and as often as they shall discover any deviations, either in the Ritual or Lectures, from the system adopted by the Grand Lodge.

ART. 18. — The M. W. Grand Master shall annually appoint a Library Committee, who shall have sole charge of the Library.

ART. 19. — The Grand Tyler is to guard the outer door, and see that none enter previously to the opening of the Lodge, except the officers and members, unless by special permission of the Grand Master.

Part Second.

GRAND CHARITY FUND.

ARTICLE I.

SECT. 1. — The Charity Fund established by this Grand Lodge shall be styled "the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts," and shall consist of **FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.**

SECT. 2. — The Charity Fund shall be held in the name of the Grand Lodge, and shall be under the direction of a Board of Trustees; and said Board shall be styled "the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts."

SECT. 3. — The interest arising annually from this Fund shall be appropriated, as the Grand Lodge shall direct, for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as may be deemed worthy of assistance; but all interest unappropriated at the end of each year shall be paid over by the Trustees to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge. *Provided, nevertheless,* That if this Fund shall at any time be reduced below the sum prescribed in Sect. 1, all such unappropriated interest shall be added yearly to the principal, until it shall again amount to Fifty Thousand Dollars.

Part Third.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

ARTICLE I.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

SECT. 1. — At each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, an Auditing Committee, consisting of three members of the Grand Lodge, shall be chosen by ballot, whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and report to the Grand Lodge at the ensuing Annual Communication, and before the election of officers, an account of the receipts and expenditures of the preceding year, with a statement of all funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

ARTICLE II.

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS FOR NEW LODGES.

SECT. 1. — Dispensations for holding new Lodges may be issued by the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge, on the petition of not less than seven Master Masons of known skill and good standing; provided the petition be countersigned by the District Deputy Grand Master within whose District the petitioners reside, and recommended by the Lodge situ-

ated nearest to the place where the new Lodge is proposed to be located.

SECT. 2. — The fee for such Dispensation shall be ten dollars, to be paid to the Grand Treasurer, and five dollars to the Secretary; and every Dispensation shall be returned to the Grand Lodge at the expiration of one year from the date thereof, together with an attested transcript of all the proceedings and of the By-Laws of the Lodge working under the same. If these be approved by the Grand Lodge, a Charter of Constitution may be issued to the petitioners, for which they shall pay to the Grand Treasurer the further sum of fifty dollars, forty-five of which shall be for the funds of the Grand Lodge and five for the Recording Grand Secretary.

SECT. 3. — The form of petition for a Dispensation shall be as follows :—

“ To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“ We, the undersigned, being Master Masons in good standing, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry; and, for the convenience of our respective dwellings and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, to be named——. We, therefore, with the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master and the Lodge nearest our residence, respectfully pray for a Dispensation empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at ——, on the —— of every month, and there to discharge the duties of Ancient York Masoury, in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge; and we have nominated and do recommend Brother *A B* to be the

Master, Brother *C D* to be the first Senior Warden, and
E F to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.
 If the prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict
 obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws
 and regulations of the Grand Lodge."

4. — Every new Lodge shall be solemnly consti-
 tuted by the Grand Master and his officers, or by some
 competent brother especially commissioned by him for the
 purpose.

ARTICLE III.

SURRENDER, FORFEITURE, AND REVOCATION OF CHARTERS.

1. — Every Charter surrendered to the Grand
 Lodge, whether or not with the intention of being resumed
 after a certain period, shall be accompanied with the By-Laws,
 the Seal, Regalia, Funds, and other property of the
 Lodge of every description; and all the property of a Lodge
 surrendering its Charter, with the intention of resuming it,
 shall be held by the Grand Lodge, in trust, until such time
 as the Charter shall be restored, or the intention of reclaim-
 ing be abandoned. The interest arising from said funds and
 other property shall be made a part of the funds of the
 Grand Lodge, and, in case of forfeiture, the principal shall
 be devoted to the same object. No Charter thus deposited
 shall be restored, unless the provisions of this section shall

Officers of a Lodge working under Dispensation are not entitled
 to be representatives in Grand Lodge. "No new Lodge is owned, nor
 are new members admitted into the Grand Lodge, unless it be regularly constituted
 and chartered." — *Vide Ancient Mas. Reg., Art. XII.*

have been strictly complied with, nor unless seven of the petitioners for its restoration were members of the Lodge at the time of its surrender; and it shall be the duty of the petitioners to notify the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, and the Lodge nearest to their residence, of their intention to petition for the restoration.

SECT. 2. — Every Charter, when declared forfeited, shall be returned to the Grand Lodge, with the Records, By-Laws, Seal, Regalia, Funds, and other property of the Lodge, of every description; and all members of a Lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall vote to divide the funds thereof among themselves, or to appropriate them in any other way than is herein designated, shall be liable to expulsion from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

SECT. 3. — If at any time it shall be found necessary to suspend or cancel the Warrant or Charter of any Lodge, under this jurisdiction, for irregular or unmasonic conduct the members of said Lodge, at the time of its having incurred such penalty, shall be disqualified to visit or join any other Lodge, without special permission of the Grand Lodge obtained on memorial.

SECT. 4. — Any Mason knowingly assisting at the Work of a Lodge whose Warrant or Charter has been suspended or cancelled, shall be liable to expulsion from the rights of Masonry.

ARTICLE IV.

SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS.

SECT. 1. — Whenever a member of a Lodge or a brother under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of any offence, which, if proved, would subject him to suspension or expulsion, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted agreeably to the following Rules : —

I. The accusations shall be made in writing, under the signature of a Master Mason, and given in charge to the Secretary of the Lodge, who, under the direction of the Master, shall serve, or cause the accused to be served, with an attested copy of the charges fourteen days at least previously to the time appointed for their examination: *Provided*, the residence of the accused shall be known, and shall be within the distance of fifty miles of the place where the Lodge having the matter in hand is located. If the residence of the accused be at a greater distance than fifty miles, but within the State, then, and in that case, a summons to appear and show cause, forwarded to him by mail, or other conveyance, twenty days at least before the time of trial, shall be considered sufficient service. If his residence be out of the State, and unknown, the Lodge may proceed to examine the charges, *ex parte*; but, if known, a summons shall be sent him by mail, or otherwise, sixty days, at least, before the time appointed for the examination.

II. The examination of the charges shall be had in a Lodge specially notified and convened for the purpose, at which no visitors shall be admitted, except as counsel or witnesses.

III. The accused may select any brother for his counsel; and the witnesses shall testify, if Masons, on their honor as such. Hearsay evidence shall be excluded.

IV. The question, "Is the accused guilty or not guilty?"

shall be distinctly put to each member of the Lodge, by name, commencing with the youngest. The answer shall be given standing, and in a distinct and audible manner. The Secretary shall record the answer as given.

V. If the verdict be suspension or expulsion, an attested copy of the proceedings shall be sent up ; at the ensuing meeting of this Grand Lodge, for examination and final action.

VI. A sentence of expulsion shall not take effect until confirmed by this Grand Lodge ; but shall operate as a suspension of the delinquent in the meantime.

SECT. 2. — It shall not be competent for a Lodge to try its Master. Any five members of the Lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master, may, however, impeach him before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges ; and if, in his opinion, they are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceeding, he may suspend the delinquent and summon him to appear at the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and usages in such cases established.

SECT. 3. — An expulsion or suspension of a brother from a Royal Arch Chapter, or an Encampment of Knights Templars, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECT. 4. — No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall suspend or expel a member from the rights of Masonry for the non-payment of dues. The highest penalty for such delinquency shall be forfeiture or suspension of membership.

ARTICLE V.

APPEAL AND RESTORATION.

SECT. 1. — As the Grand Lodge, when congregated, is a representation of every individual member of the Fraternity, it necessarily possesses a supreme superintending authority, and the power of finally deciding on every case which concerns the interest of the Craft. Any brother, therefore, who may feel aggrieved by the decision of any Lodge, or other masonic authority, acting under this jurisdiction, may appeal to the Grand Lodge against such decision. The appeal must be made in writing, specifying the particular grievance complained of, and transmitted to the Recording Grand Secretary ten days at least before the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge. A notice and copy of the appeal shall also, and at the same time, be sent by the appellant to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

SECT. 2. — Whenever this Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, and shall restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMITTEES — THEIR APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

SECT. 1. — All committees, whose election is not herein provided for, shall be appointed by the Grand Master, or, in

his absence, by the presiding officer, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 2. — No brother, not a member of the Grand Lodge, shall be appointed on any committee therein. This, however, is not intended to militate against the right of the Grand Master to commission any brother, in writing, for a specific purpose.

SECT. 3. — All committees, chosen or appointed, shall report their proceedings, in writing, at the next Communication after their appointment. The first brother chosen or appointed shall be chairman, and shall furnish each of the committee with a copy of the vote of his appointment, as received from the Grand Secretary, and designate the time and place of meeting.

SECT. 4. — The expenses of all committees shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VII.

REGALIA — DRESS IN GRAND LODGE.

SECT. 1. — The Jewel of the Grand Officers shall be as follows : —

I. The Jewel of the Grand Master shall be the Compasses extended to 45°, with the segment of a circle at the points, and a gold plate included, on which is represented an eye, eradiated within a triangle, also eradiated.

The Jewel of the Deputy Grand Master shall be the Compasses and Square united, with a five-pointed star in the centre.

The Jewels of the District Deputy Grand Masters shall be the Compasses extended to 45°, with the segment of a circle at the points, with a crescent in the centre.

Senior Grand Warden, the Level.
Junior Grand Warden, the Plumb.
Grand Treasurer, a chased Key.
Recording Grand Secretary, cross Pens with a tie.
Corresponding Grand Secretary, cross Pens with a tie.
Grand Chaplain, a Book within a triangle.
Grand Marshal, cross Rods.
Grand Deacons, Dove and Olive Branch.
Grand Stewards, Cornucopia.
Grand Sword-Bearer, cross Swords.
Grand Standard-Bearer, Banner.
Grand Pursuivants, a Rod and Sword crossed.
Grand Lecturer, open Book upon Square and Compasses.
Grand Organist, Lyre.
Grand Tyler, Sword.

The Jewel of a Past Grand Master shall be the Compasses extended to 45°, with the segment of a circle at the points, with a blazing Sun in the centre.

The Jewel of a Past Deputy Grand Master shall be the Compasses extended to 45°, with the segment of a circle at the points, with a crescent in the centre.

The Jewels of all the Grand Officers, with the exception of the District Deputy Grand Masters, shall be within a wreath composed of a sprig of Acacia and an ear of Wheat.

II. The Collars of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, shall be chains of gold, or metal gilt.

The Collars of the other officers of the Grand Lodge shall be purple, four inches broad, with narrow edging of gold lace, and ornamented in the centre with a pomegranate embroidered in gold.

III. The Apron of the Grand Master shall be of white lamb-skin, lined with purple, ornamented with the blazing Sun, embroidered in gold in the centre ; on the edging the pomegranate

and lotus, with the seven-eared wheat at each corner, and also on the fall, — all in gold embroidery, the fringe of gold bullion, with purple edging and strings.

The Apron of the Deputy Grand Master shall be of the same material and lining, having the emblem of his office in gold embroidery in the centre, and the pomegranate and lotus alternately embroidered in gold on the edging.

The Aprons of the other Grand Officers shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple; edging three and a half inches wide, with purple strings; ornamented with gold, having the emblems of their office, in gold, in the centre.

IV. The Grand Officers shall wear gauntlets of purple, with the emblem of their office, embroidered in gold, within a wreath.

SECT. 2. — The Apron of a Master Mason should be a plain white lambskin, fourteen inches wide by twelve inches deep, with sky-blue lining and edging, having three rosettes, of the same color. No other color shall be allowed, and no other ornament should be worn, except by officers and past officers of Lodges, who may have the emblems of their offices, in silver, on the Apron.

An officer of a subordinate Lodge should wear a blue Sash; a blue velvet Collar, trimmed with silver lace, and a silver Jewel.

The Jewels of a subordinate Lodge shall be as follows:—

The Jewel of a Past Master shall be the blazing Sun, within Compasses, extended on a Quadrant; the Master, the Square; Senior Warden, the Level; Junior Warden, the Plumb: Treasurer, the cross Keys; Secretary, the cross Pens; Chaplain, the Bible, within a circle; Deacons, the Compasses and Square united; Marshal, Baton in a square; Stewards, Cornucopia, in a circle; Organist, Lyre in a circle; Tyler, cross Swords.

r. 3. — No brother shall, on any pretence, be admitted to the Grand Lodge, or any subordinate Lodge, without proper clothing, nor shall any officer of the Grand Lodge, or representative of a subordinate Lodge (proxies excepted), be allowed to vote, without his Jewel, unless he offers a satisfactory excuse and have permission of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VIII.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

r. 1. — Lodges of Instruction may be holden in any city in the Commonwealth with the permission of the Grand Master, in writing; provided, however, that not less than two Lodges shall apply for such permission. The person to whom such permission is granted shall be responsible for the proceedings of such Lodge of Instruction, and shall have received the sanction of the Grand Lodge.

r. 2. — Notice of the times and places of meeting of Lodges of Instruction shall be given to the brethren in the vicinity, who shall be at liberty to join the same, and to such rules, regulations, and assessments as may be imposed upon.

r. 3. — Each Lodge of Instruction shall keep a record of its proceedings, and of the names of all visiting brethren present at each meeting, and of brethren appointed to office; and such record shall be produced when required by the Grand Master, or by the Lodge granting sanction.

r. 4. — The Grand Master shall have power to

suspend or dissolve any Lodge of Instruction, when, in his opinion, there shall be sufficient cause therefor.

SECT. 5. — Any brother, being a member of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, may become a member of any Lodge of Instruction in this Commonwealth, by complying with the regulations thereof.

Part Fourth.

SUBORDINATE LODGES.

ARTICLE I.

POWERS AND DUTIES.

SECT. 1. — All Lodges under this jurisdiction have a right to convene as Free and Accepted Masons, to receive and enter Apprentices, pass Fellow-Crafts, and raise Master Masons, and assess fees therefor; to choose officers annually; establish funds for charitable purposes, and transact all matters appertaining to Masonry, agreeably to their Charters, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient usages of the Craft.

SECT. 2. — The Lodges under this jurisdiction shall be formed into Districts by the Grand Master, for each of which a District Deputy Grand Master shall be annually appointed; and it shall be the duty of every Master, or presiding officer of a Lodge, when notified of the intended official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, to convene his Lodge, receive him as the representative of the Grand Lodge, resign the chair to him while making his official communications, submit to his inspection the By-Laws,

Records, and mode of Work, and deliver to him the return of the Lodge, and the dues to the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 3. — The Lodges under this jurisdiction shall make an annual return to their District Deputy Grand Master, of their officers and members, of all candidates initiated, crafted, and raised, agreeably to the form established by the Grand Lodge; for which purpose they shall be furnished with suitable blanks.

SECT. 4. — Should any Lodge neglect to make its returns and payments to the Grand Lodge for the space of two years, the Master and Wardens of such Lodge shall not be permitted to attend, in their official capacity, any meeting of the Grand Lodge, until such returns and payments are made; and should the delinquency continue for three years, the Charter, funds, and regalia of such Lodge may be declared forfeited to the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 5. — No petition for the removal of a Lodge from the place in which it is located shall be sustained in Grand Lodge, unless said petition is sanctioned by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District where said Lodge is situated, and has the approbation of the Lodge nearest the place where the said Lodge is intended to be held; the same to be signified, in writing, to the Grand Lodge. Nor shall any Lodge hold meetings, unless authorized by the Grand Master, in any place other than the one designated in their Charter, under the penalty of a forfeiture thereof.

SECT. 6. — The majority of the members of any Lodge, when duly assembled, shall have the right to instruct their Master and Wardens as their representatives in the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 7. — As every warranted Lodge is a constituent part of the Grand Lodge, in which assembly all the powers of the Fraternity reside, it is clear that no other authority can destroy the power granted by a warrant. If, therefore, the majority of any Lodge should determine to leave the Institution, or leave that Lodge, the Constitution, or power of assembling, remains with the rest of the members who adhere to their allegiance. If the number remaining shall, however, be reduced to less than seven, the Charter shall be returned, agreeably to the regulation in such cases provided.

SECT. 8. — If the Master and Wardens of any Lodge be summoned to attend, or to produce the Charter, books, papers, or accounts of their Lodge, to the Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master within whose jurisdiction it is located, or any committee authorized by the Grand Lodge, and refuse to comply with said summons, or give satisfactory reasons for non-compliance, they may be suspended, and the proceedings shall be notified to the Grand Lodge; when, in case of contumacy, expulsion or revocation of Charter shall be the penalty.

SECT. 9. — All Lodges are particularly bound to observe the same usages and customs. Every deviation, therefore, from the established mode of working is highly improper, and ought not to be countenanced. In order to preserve this uniformity, and to cultivate a good understanding among the Craft, some members of every Lodge should be deputed to visit the other Lodges as often as may be convenient; and it shall be the duty of the Master and Wardens to qualify themselves in the Work and Lectures, sanctioned by the

Grand Lodge, that they may be enabled to instruct their respective Lodges.

SECT. 10. — Each Lodge shall pay annually towards the support of the Grand Lodge, ten dollars ; and five dollars for every candidate by them initiated ; and shall receive from the Grand Lodge as many Diplomas as they may make Master Masons.

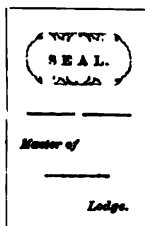
ARTICLE II.

PROXIES OF LODGES.

SECT. 1. — It is the duty of every Lodge to be represented at the Communications of the Grand Lodge, by its Master and Wardens, or by a proxy duly commissioned, under the seal of the Lodge, and the attestation of the Master and Secretary ; and, that there may be no excuse for neglect of this duty, each Lodge is authorized to appoint any Master Mason of regular standing, not holding office in the Grand Lodge, and being a member of said Lodge, a proxy to represent them in the Grand Lodge ; and such proxy shall have a right to a seat in the Grand Lodge during the masonic year in which he was appointed, and to a vote when the Master and Wardens of the Lodge he represents shall not either of them be present.

SECT. 2. — Any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, but established beyond the territorial limits of Massachusetts, may constitute an honorary member of such Lodge to act as its proxy in Grand Lodge. The letter, by which a Lodge shall appoint a proxy is to be in form and substance as follows, viz. : —

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.



BE IT KNOWN, That Brother — —, of — —, having been chosen by the members of — — Lodge, in — —, to represent said Lodge in Grand Lodge the ensuing year; I do, by these presents, in their behalf, constitute and appoint him their representative; for them to appear, and upon all subjects relating to the Craft in general, and to said Lodge in particular, to act and decide as fully as though we were personally present.

Confirming the acts of our beloved brother, in his capacity aforesaid, we pray that he may enjoy all the privileges and protection to which we are entitled.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the seal of our Lodge to be affixed, this — — day of — —, A.L. 58—.

Attest, — — — —, *Secretary.*

SECT. 3. — Every Lodge represented by proxy in the Grand Lodge shall issue the commission annually. All commissions of proxies shall expire with the closing of the Grand Lodge on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, or the day of installation; and no brother shall represent more than one Lodge at the same time, either as representative or proxy.

SECT. 4. — Every subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction shall be allowed three votes in all elections and other business in this Grand Lodge, whether represented by one or more of its representatives.

ARTICLE III.

INITIATION OF CANDIDATES.

SECT. 1. — All applications for initiation shall be made in writing, over the signature of the applicant, and in the following form : —

FORM OF PETITION.

To the W. Master, Wardens, and Members of — Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

The subscriber respectfully represents, that having long entertained a favorable opinion of your ancient institution, he is desirous, if found worthy, to be admitted a member thereof.

My place of residence is —.

Age —.

Occupation — —.

I have — before applied for initiation.

Signed, — —.

[Date.]

RECOMMENDATION.

I, — —, member, of — Lodge aforesaid, hereby recommend said — — for initiation.

Signed, — —.

No candidate shall be balloted for who has not been proposed at a Stated Monthly Meeting, and who shall not have stood so proposed from one Regular Monthly Meeting to another, without a Dispensation therefor; nor shall a candidate, in any event, be balloted for, into whose moral character a strict inquiry has not been made, and whose

name has not been borne on the notifications for the meeting at which he is to be balloted for. It shall not be regular for any Lodge which does not usually issue written or printed notifications of its meetings, to ballot upon any application for the degrees when there is a Dispensation therefor, at any but Stated Monthly Meetings, without written or printed notifications to the members of the Lodge, with the name of the candidate borne thereon.

SECT. 2. — No candidate, whose application may be rejected by a Lodge, shall be initiated in any Lodge under this jurisdiction, other than the one to which he first applied, without a recommendation from six members of the said Lodge, of whom the Master and Wardens shall be three. And when the Master and Wardens are unwilling so to recommend a candidate who has been rejected, it shall be their duty to communicate such rejection to the Grand Lodge, or to the District Deputy Grand Master, who shall immediately communicate the same to all the Lodges under his jurisdiction. And if any Mason knowingly assist, or recommend for initiation, to *any Lodge whatever*, any candidate rejected as aforesaid, who may not have obtained a recommendation as before provided, such Mason shall be expelled from the institution, or subjected to such other penalty as the Grand Lodge may see cause to impose.

Any candidate residing within this State, whose application has been rejected, who shall be initiated in any other Lodge, without the recommendation aforesaid, shall be deemed a clandestine Mason, and shall not be allowed to visit any Lodge within this jurisdiction, and the Craft is hereby forbidden to hold masonic intercourse with him.

SECT. 3. — The general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members is, that such admission is to be sanctioned by entire unanimity; and so sacred and fundamental does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that no candidate shall be initiated in any Lodge, under this jurisdiction, without a clear and unanimous vote in his favor. Every member present shall vote on the application, unless excused by the Lodge.

SECT. 4. — By the ancient regulations, the physical deformity of an individual operates as a bar to his admission into the Fraternity. But in view of the fact that this regulation was adopted for the government of the Craft at a period when they united the character of *operative* with that of *speculative* Masons, this Grand Lodge, in common it is believed with most of her sister Grand Lodges in this country and in Europe, has authorized such a construction of the regulation as that where the deformity does not amount to an inability to meet the requirements of the ritual, and honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, it constitutes no hindrance to initiation.

SECT. 5. — Applications for initiation shall be made to the Lodge in the town or city where the petitioner resides, if there be a Lodge therein; but if there be none, then he shall apply to the Lodge most convenient to his residence, and it shall be the duty of such Lodge to make due and careful inquiry as to the moral standing of the petitioner, of some respectable and reliable person or persons living in the place of his residence, before he shall be initiated. And no person residing in a town or city where there is a Lodge shall be initiated in any other town or city, without the

written consent and recommendation of the Master, one Warden, and two members at least, of each Lodge in the town or city where he resides; provided, however, that where there are more than two Lodges in any town or city, such consent and recommendation shall not be required of more than two of them. Nor shall any candidate be received from any other State (he being a resident thereof) where a regular Lodge is established, without the written permission of the Grand Master of such State.

SECT. 6. — No Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft, initiated or passed in any Lodge within the United States, shall be passed or raised in any Lodge under this jurisdiction, without the consent of the Master and Wardens of the Lodge in which he was first admitted, or a Dispensation from the Grand Master.

SECT. 7. — Any member of a subordinate Lodge may object to the initiation, passing, or raising of a candidate, at any time before the degree is conferred; and it shall be the duty of the Lodge to investigate such objections before proceeding further with the candidate.

SECT. 8. — The fee demanded by a Lodge for initiating, crafting, and raising a Mason, shall not be less than twenty-five dollars, including the fee to the Grand Lodge; and no Lodge under this jurisdiction shall take notes of hand for fees, or grant any time of credit therefor.

SECT. 9. — No Lodge, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, shall initiate, craft, or raise a candidate.

SECT. 10. — No Lodge shall hold more than one Communication on the same day, *nor confer either of the three degrees upon more than FIVE candidates at one*

Communication. No Lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present at the same time in the first section of the first degree, nor in the second section of the third degree.

NOTE. — In the discussion of this Article in Grand Lodge, the first Section being under consideration, the opinion was expressed and acquiesced in that the clause in said section which requires the names of candidates to be borne on the notifications for the meeting at which the balloting takes place, is not intended to affect the Lodges in the country, which do not issue written notifications.

Part Fifth.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

SECT. 1. — No business, other than that appertaining to the Work and Lectures, shall be transacted in a Lodge while open on the first or second degree. All general business, such as the election and installation of officers, the discussion of questions relating to the general interests of the Fraternity, and the local affairs of the Lodge, shall be transacted in a Masters' Lodge.

SECT. 2. — The Lodges shall admit as members such only as are Master Masons. Any brother having been discharged for non-payment of dues, shall not be admitted to membership in any other Lodge until the same are paid or remitted. The receipt or certificate from the Secretary of the Lodge of which the applicant was last a member, shall be satisfactory evidence that his dues have been liquidated.

SECT. 3. — The Master of any Lodge under this jurisdiction, who has faithfully discharged his duties and complied with the laws of the Grand Lodge, shall, at the end of his first year, be presented by the District Deputy Grand Master with a Past Master's Diploma.

SECT. 4. — Any Lodge may take cognizance of the conduct of any sojourning brother or brethren, not attached

to any particular Lodge, upon a charge of unmasonic conduct.

SECT. 5. — No Lodge shall encourage, promote, or permit the delivery of any masonic lectures, which have not been sanctioned and authorized by the Grand Lodge. Nor shall any Mason be permitted to deliver such lectures under this jurisdiction.

SECT. 6. — No Lodge shall form a public procession without permission from the Grand Master (or, in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master,) or the District Deputy Grand Master within whose District it is located.

SECT. 7. — No Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order, unless it be at his own special request, without a Dispensation from the Grand Master; nor under any circumstances, unless he has been advanced to the degree of a Master Mason.

SECT. 8. — No Lodge, or officer or member of a Lodge, shall under any circumstances give a certificate or recommendation to enable a Mason to proceed from Lodge to Lodge as a pauper, or in an itinerant manner to apply to Lodges for relief.

SECT. 9. — It shall not be permitted to introduce political or other exciting topics for discussion in any Lodge under this jurisdiction.

SECT. 10. — A Lodge ought to meet once in each calendar month, but may with propriety adjourn during the summer months of June, July, and August.

SECT. 11. — The Master of a Lodge has the special charge of its Charter, and it is his duty to see that it is carefully preserved. It must be present whenever the Lodge is opened.

SECT. 12. — A visiting brother, having produced his Grand Lodge Certificate, or Diploma, has a right to call for the Charter of the Lodge he desires to visit.

SECT. 13. — No brother shall be a member of more than one Lodge; nor shall he hold more than one office in the same Lodge, or in Grand Lodge, at the same time.

SECT. 14. — The removal of a brother into another jurisdiction does not, of itself, authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECT. 15. — No Mason, not a member of some subordinate Lodge, shall be allowed to visit the same Lodge in the place where he resides more than twice, without the permission of the Master or vote of the Lodge.

SECT. 16. — No Lodge can suspend the operation of a By-Law; nor, at a *Special Meeting*, alter or amend any part of the proceedings of a *Stated* one.

SECT. 17. — No brother ought to be elected Master of a Lodge who has not served at least one year in the office of Warden.

SECT. 18. — No Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons can legally assemble in this Commonwealth under a Warrant granted by any foreign masonic power.

SECT. 19. — It shall not be legal for any Lodge to interfere with the business or concerns of another Lodge.

SECT. 20. — Any vote passed in the Grand Lodge, or by any subordinate Lodge, may be reconsidered at the same meeting; or at the next subsequent meeting, provided notice of the intention to move for such a reconsideration shall be given at the meeting at which the vote was originally passed.

SECT. 21. — A Lodge or brother offending against any law or regulation of the Craft, or of this Grand Lodge, to the breach of which no penalty is attached, shall, at the discretion of the Grand Lodge, be subject to admonition, suspension, or expulsion.

SECT. 22. — No permanent regulation of this Grand Lodge shall be repealed or amended at the meeting at which such repeal or amendment is proposed, nor until it has been duly considered by a committee, to be chosen by the Grand Lodge at a previous Quarterly Communication. And every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, within the territorial limits of Massachusetts, shall be served by the Recording Grand Secretary with an attested copy of such proposed repeal or amendment within thirty days after the meeting at which such repeal or amendment is proposed. A majority of two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for the adoption of any amendment.

SECT. 23. — No Lodge shall apply for, receive, or act under any corporate Charter granted by any Legislature or political government; and the receiving such Charter of incorporation, or acting thereunder by any Lodge under this jurisdiction, shall operate as a surrender and revocation of its masonic Charter or Warrant from this Grand Lodge.

Part Sixth.

RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND LODGE.

RULE 1. — None but members of the Grand Lodge, past or present officers of other Grand Lodges excepted, shall be present at the opening of the same, nor shall any visitor be admitted during the session, except by permission of the Grand Master.

2. — All members and visitors shall keep the seats assigned them, except the Grand Marshal and officers whose duties may call them about the Lodge.

3. — All resolutions shall be submitted in writing before there shall be any debate upon them ; as shall all motions, if the Grand Master or any brother desire it.

4. — All matters in Grand Lodge are to be decided by vote, each member having one vote only, unless the question be taken by ballot, when, if he be entitled to two votes, he may give them. The Grand Master shall be entitled to one vote on all questions, and may also give the casting vote whenever there shall be an equal division.

5. — Each member shall vote on all questions, except where he is personally interested, unless specially excused by the Grand Lodge.

6. — No brother shall speak more than twice to the same question, unless in explanation, without permission of the Grand Master.

7. — Every member who speaks shall rise, and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Master; nor shall any brother presume to interrupt him, except on a point of order.

8. — When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to amend, commit, lay upon the table, or adjourn.

9. — A motion to amend, until decided, shall preclude all other amendments of the main question.

10. — Any member may call for a division of the question, where the same will admit of it.

11. — No new motion, which totally changes the subject matter on which the original motion was intended to operate, shall be admitted, under color of amendment, as a substitute for the motion under debate.

12. — No member, except one of the majority which decided the question, shall be allowed to move for a reconsideration.

13. — After a motion is stated by the Grand Master, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Grand Lodge, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

14. — There shall be no debate upon any question after it is put by the Grand Master.

15. — All motions and reports may be committed at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

16. — While the Grand Master is addressing the Grand Lodge, or putting a question, or a brother is speaking, no member shall entertain any private discourse, nor pass between the speaker and the chair.

17. — All communications, petitions, appeals, resolutions, propositions, and motions shall be couched in decent and respectful language, or they shall not be entertained in Grand Lodge.

18. — No brother shall leave the Grand Lodge during the session, without permission of the Grand Master.

19. — If any member shall have been twice called to order for transgressing these Rules, and shall nevertheless be guilty of a third offence, at the same meeting, the Grand Master shall peremptorily command him to take his seat, and he shall not be permitted to speak again during that session of the Grand Lodge.

DEFINITIONS.

1. — *Ample Form*. The Grand Lodge is declared to be opened in *Ample Form* when the Grand Master presides.

2. — *In Due Form*, when the Deputy Grand Master presides. And —

3. — *In Form*, when it is opened in the absence of both the Grand Master and his Deputy.

4. — *Discharged Member*. This term is applied to a member of a Lodge who has been discharged for non-payment of his quarterly dues, or other violation of the local rules of his Lodge.

5. — *Suspension*. The suspension of a brother excludes him from all his masonic privileges, and prohibits all masonic intercourse between him and his brethren during the time of his suspension.

6. — *Expulsion*. This is the highest penalty that can be incurred, and the severest punishment that can be inflicted, for any violation of masonic engagements. It excludes a Mason from all his masonic rights and privileges forever, unless he be restored by the Grand Lodge. It ought never to be exercised but with extreme caution, and in cases where a lighter punishment would be of no avail.

7. — *Summons and Notification.* These terms are used in the old regulations, and by many of the Grand Lodges in this country, synonymously. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts makes the following distinctions :—

A *Notification* is the notice by which the time, place, and hour (and frequently the business) of the Lodge are communicated to the members. This notice every brother receiving it is expected to obey, unless his doing so would materially interfere with his *business* engagements. The obligation which it imposes is a general one ; and the highest penalty incurred by a violation of it is forfeiture of membership.

A *Summons* is a call of authority ; a citation to appear and answer to the charges therein set forth. Or, it is an imperative injunction to appear at a Special Meeting of the Lodge with which the brother receiving it is affiliated ; or to attend on the Grand Master, the District Deputy Grand Master, or any committee, or other body authorized by the Grand Lodge to issue it. The obligation to obey it is special and obligatory on every brother receiving it. The penalty for its non-observance is expulsion ; unless the party offending be able to urge a pressing and positive necessity for his excuse.

8. — *The Lodge.* The term *Lodge* is generally understood to refer to the members of a particular masonic association, or the place in which they meet. In a few of the States, it technically signifies the Ark of the Covenant, which is kept in the hall, and frequently carried in public processions. The Ark is not used in our Lodges. The *flooring*, or Master's carpet, is frequently called the Lodge.

9. — *The flooring, or Carpet*, is a regularly arranged painting of the masonic emblems on canvas. No Lodge should be without one.

10. — *The Trestle-Board, or Tracing-Board* "is for the Master to draw his designs upon"; or it is the board on which the designs of the Master are already drawn. The term is frequently used synonymously with *flooring* and *carpet*.

CONFERRING DEGREES.

The following Order was adopted by the Grand Lodge, June 4, 1843, and makes part of these Constitutions:—

"*Ordered*, That from and after the passage of this Order, it shall not be regular to give more than one degree to the same individual on the same day, nor at a less interval than one month from his receiving the previous degree, unless a Dispensation shall have been obtained therefor."

STANDING VOTES, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDERS OF THE
GRAND LODGE, NOW IN FORCE.

Ordered, That it shall not be regular, hereafter, for any Lodge which does not usually issue written or printed notifications of its meetings to ballot upon any application for the degrees when there is a Dispensation therefor, at any but Stated Monthly Meetings, without written or printed notifications to the members of the Lodge, with the name of the candidate borne thereon.

Voted, That the Secretary cause the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge to be annually hereafter published with the Proceedings.

Voted, That the Grand Master be authorized and empowered to draw upon the Treasurer for such sums of money as are necessary to defray the expenses of the meetings of the District Deputy Grand Masters at the Annual and Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Master in his Annual Address report such expenditures.

Voted, That, in the dedication of new masonic halls, the Grand Lodge will pay the travelling expenses of its own officers, whenever, in the opinion of the Grand Master, the subordinate Lodge is unable to bear them.

Voted, That, in constituting new Lodges, the travelling expenses *only* of the Grand Officers shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That whenever the Grand Officers are invited to perform the ceremony of installation, either publicly or in private, the entire expense shall be borne by the subordinate Lodge.

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master be instructed to make a detailed report of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge in his Annual Address.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary insert in his notifications for meetings of the Grand Lodge, the Part, Article, and Section of any proposed Amendment to the Grand Constitutions, which may be in order for deliberation at such meetings.

SINKING FUND.

For the purpose of defraying the indebtedness of the Grand Lodge, removing the incumbrances upon the Temple, and placing the Charity Fund upon an independent basis, — it is hereby ordered and decreed by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as follows : —

That the sum of one dollar, as Grand Lodge dues, shall be paid on the first day of September, annually, for the term of thirteen years, by every affiliated Mason under our jurisdiction.

Said sum shall be collected by the Lodges of their members, and paid to the District Deputy Grand Masters, at their annual visits.

Any member, by paying the sum of ten dollars at one time, shall thereafter be exempt from the operation of this decree.

No non-affiliated Mason, residing in the State of Massachusetts, shall visit any Lodge without first paying the sum of twenty-five cents at each visit, which sum shall be paid by the Lodges to the District Deputy Grand Master, as before ordered.

Said moneys shall constitute the sinking-fund of the Grand Lodge, to which all moneys unappropriated at the end of each year shall be added, and the same shall be separately invested by the Grand Treasurer, under the direction of the

Board of Directors, and pledged to the payment of the debt upon the Temple.

The Grand Treasurer, at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, shall make a full and exact report of the sinking-fund, of the amount received from each Lodge, the amount invested, and how invested, and of all matters relating thereto.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby pledges the faith of the Fraternity of the Commonwealth to sustain the M.W. Grand Master and the Board of Directors in completing and paying for the New Masonic Temple, now being erected in this city.

POSITIONS OF THE GRAND OFFICERS IN THE GRAND LODGE.

THE M.W. GRAND MASTER,

In the East, at the head of the Grand Lodge.

THE R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

In the East, next to and left of the M.W. Grand Master.

THE R.W. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,

In the West.

THE R.W. JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN,

In the South.

THE R.W. PAST GRAND MASTERS,

East, at the right of the M.W. Grand Master, and the Junior Past Grand Master next to the Grand Master.

THE R.W. PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, at the right of the Past Grand Masters.

THE R.W. PAST GRAND WARDENS,

In the East, at the right of the Past Deputy Grand Masters.

THE R.W. GRAND TREASURER,

On the right, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.W. RECORDING GRAND SECRETARY,

On the left, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.W. CORRESPONDING GRAND SECRETARY,

On the left, next to the Recording Grand Secretary.

THE R.W. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, on the left of the Deputy Grand Master.

THE W. AND REV. GRAND CHAPLAINS,

East, the Senior upon a raised dais in front of the Grand Master and between him and the Past Junior Grand Master ; and the Junior upon a raised dais on the left of the Grand Master and between him and the Deputy Grand Master, both being upon a lower grade than that of the Grand Master and that of the Past Junior Grand Master upon his right and left.

THE W. GRAND MARSHAL,

Upon the left of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Secretary.

THE W. SENIOR GRAND DEACON,

Upon the right of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Treasurer.

THE W. JUNIOR GRAND DEACON,

In the West, at the right of the Senior Grand Warden.

THE W. GRAND STEWARDS,

In the South, two upon the right, and two upon the left of the Junior Grand Warden, upon each side, one Steward in front of the other.

THE W. GRAND SWORD-BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Marshal.

THE W. GRAND STANDARD-BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Sword-Bearer.

THE W. GRAND PURSUIVANTS,

Near the doors of entrance to the Grand Lodge, and whose duty it is "to receive all reports from the Grand Tyler, to announce the name and masonic rank of all who desire admission, and to see that none enter without wearing their appropriate decorations."

THE W. GRAND LECTURERS,

The first and second on the right of the Senior Grand Deacon, and the third in the West, at the left of the R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

BR. GRAND ORGANIST,

At the Organ.

BR. GRAND TYLER.

Outside of the entrance to the Grand Lodge.

I N D E X.

I N D E X.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE

OF THE

Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity

OF

Free and Accepted Masons

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

IN UNION WITH THE MOST ANCIENT AND HONORABLE GRAND LODGES IN
EUROPE AND AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE OLD CONSTITUTIONS,

From March 10 to Dec. 28, 1869 ;

BEING ITS ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY.

M.W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, GRAND MASTER.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON, GRAND SECRETARY.

Ordered to be Read in all the Lodges.

BOSTON:
PRINTED BY SOLON THORNTON.
1870.

To the Librarian of
Harvard College
Cambridge.

Dr. Sir

I send you herewith
for the library, copies of the
"Proceedings of the Grand Lodge
of Masons of Mass." for the
years 1864-1865-1866-1867-1868
and 1869. - and if agreeable,
I will make provision for
sending you hereafter, annually
a copy.

Your Obedient Servant

William L. Gardner

Boston

March 30th

1870.

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1870.

1870, April 1.
Gift of
Wm. S. Gardner,
& Boston.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS:

WILLIAM S. GARDNER,
27 TREMONT ROW,
BOSTON, MASS.

GRAND SECRETARY'S ADDRESS:

SOLON THORNTON,
BOSTON, MASS.

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ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS.

Abstract of Proceedings

OF

THE GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

MARCH 10, A.L. 5869.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, on Wednesday, March 10, A.L. 5869.

P R E S E N T,

M.W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER . . .	Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE, <i>as</i> . . .	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY . . .	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. IVORY H. POPE . . .	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN . . .	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON . . .	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH . . .	D.D.G.Master, District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER . . .	" " District No. 2.
R.W. BENJAMIN POPE . . .	" " District No. 3.
R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP . . .	" " District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON . . .	" " District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP . . .	" " District No. 6.
R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS . . .	" " District No. 7.
R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK . . .	" " District No. 8.
R.W. DANIEL UPTON . . .	" " District No. 9.
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS . . .	" " District No. 10.
R.W. GEORGE E. STACY . . .	" " District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT . . .	" " District No. 13.
R.W. JOHN A. LEE . . .	" " District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr. . .	" " District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL . . .	" " District No. 16.

W. REV. CHARLES H. TITUS	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM T. GRAMMER	Grand Marshal.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JAMES B. PICKETT, }	Grand Stewards.
W. JOHN HAIGH, }	
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Standard-Bearer.
W. CHARLES KIMBALL	Grand Pursuivant.
W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, }	
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	Past Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES C. DAME	" " "
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. G. W. WARREN	" " " "
R.W. LORENZO H. GAMWELL.	Past Grand Warden.
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	" " "
R.W. PETER C. JONES	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at two o'clock, P.M., with prayer by the Junior Grand Chaplain, W. Br. Rev. Charles H. Titus.

The printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for the past year having been distributed among the members, on motion of Past Grand Master Winslow Lewis, it was *Voted*, That the reading of the Records be dispensed with.

The roll of Lodges was called, and the following found to be represented :—

ADELPHI.	ESSEX.	KING DAVID.
ADAMS.	GERMANIA.	KONOHASSETT.
ACACIA.	GATE OF THE TEMPLE.	LAFAYETTE.
BETHESDA.	GRECIAN.	MASSACHUSETTS.
BERKSHIRE.	HAMMATT.	MOUNT LEBANON.
COLUMBIAN.	HAMPDEN.	MOUNT HERMON.
CHARLES C. DAME.	IONIC (Taunton).	MIDDLESEX.
DALHOUSIE.	JOSEPH WARREN.	MOUNT OLIVET.

FOR.	MERRIMAC.	MOUNT HOREB
T MORIAH.	MONTACUTE.	(Woburn).
T HOPE.	MARTHA'S VINEYARD.	MOUNT HOREB (West
HA.	NORTH STAR.	Harwich).
OLK UNION.	OLD COLONY.	PUTNAM.
AGORIAN.	PILGRIM.	• PHILANTHROPIO.
ELL LEE.	RISING STAR.	RURAL.
RT LASH.	STAR OF BETHLEHEM.	ST. PAUL.
KING.	ST. MARK'S.	ST. MATTHEW.
HEW.	ST. JAMES.	STAR IN THE EAST.
L HARMONY.	ST. BERNARD'S.	TYRIAN.
N.	THOMAS.	UNITED BRETHREN.
OW LEWIS.	WASHINGTON.	WILLIAM PARKMAN.
ER.	WILLIAM NORTH.	ZETLAND.
	ANCIENT LANDMARK.	

The Most Worshipful Grand Master delivered the follow-

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE, — It is somewhat unusual for the Grand Master to make formal communications to the Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Meetings thereof; but there are matters which I deem of so much consequence that I considered it proper to lay them before you, and to recommend such action in relation thereto as their importance demands. Without making any preliminary remarks, I will proceed directly to the subjects to which I desire to call your attention.

I. THE RECORDS OF THE GRAND LODGE,

extending from 1733 to the present time, contain the History of the establishment of Masonry upon this Continent, and are of inestimable value. Of late years, it has been customary to publish an "Abstract" of the Annual Proceedings, but these printed abstracts omit many things contained in the Records, especially things relating to Finances. The Constitutions require the Grand Secretary to "make a transcript of the Records annually, immediately after the September Communication of the Grand Lodge." The object of this provision was, undoubtedly,

that the Grand Lodge, at the Annual Meeting in December following, might know by inspection that this work had been properly and carefully done. This transcript is required to guard against the destruction of the original Record. It was intended that two copies of the Record should be preserved in different places, so that the Grand Lodge might receive no detriment should one copy be consumed.

Until within the past ten years, it has been customary to have an annual examination of these Records, and a report thereof made to the Grand Lodge at the Annual Meeting. This duty devolved upon the Finance Committee, which, until the year 1818, was appointed by the Grand Master. In the year 1817, a Charter was received from the Legislature of Massachusetts, and, soon after, this Committee of Finance was recognized by the Constitutions, and made elective. In the Constitutions of 1820, its duties are defined, and among them is the following: "to examine the records of the Grand Secretaries, and have them transcribed into the transcript books."

From that year until 1859, when the present Charter was obtained, this Committee reported annually to the Grand Lodge the state and condition of these Records, and usually in this language, "that they have examined the Records of the Recording Grand Secretary for the past year, and find them correctly kept and accurately transcribed."

In 1860, the Constitutions were again amended to meet the supposed requirements of the new corporation, the Auditing Committee was provided for, and this duty of examining the Records, which had been recognized for more than a century in this Grand Lodge, was entirely obliterated. Since then, so far as I can learn, the Records have not been examined by any Committee of the Grand Lodge. For these years the Records have been confided to faithful hands, and undoubtedly they have been correctly kept. But who of the Grand Lodge can vouch for this?

In view of the great value of these Records, I would recom-

mend that a Committee be appointed to examine them, and report,—

1. The condition in which the originals are kept ;
2. The condition of the transcripts ;
3. Where the originals and transcripts are kept, together with the number of volumes of each.

I would also recommend that the same Committee report an amendment to the Constitutions, requiring this duty to be annually performed.

II. THE GRAND CHARITY FUND

Is recognized as being duly established by this Grand Lodge in Part Second of the Constitutions, and is as follows :—

“SECT. 1. — The Charity Fund established by this Grand Lodge shall be styled ‘the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts,’ and shall consist of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

“SECT. 2. — The Charity Fund shall be held in the name of the Grand Lodge, and shall be under the direction of a Board of Trustees ; and said Board shall be styled ‘the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.’

“SECT. 3. — The interest arising annually from this Fund shall be appropriated, as the Grand Lodge shall direct, for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as may be deemed worthy of assistance ; but all interest unappropriated at the end of each year shall be paid over by the Trustees to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge. *Provided, nevertheless, That, if this Fund shall at any time be reduced below the sum prescribed in Sect. 1, all such unappropriated interest shall be added yearly to the principal, until it shall again amount to Fifty Thousand Dollars.*”

. . . I am unable to state in what condition this fund is, or to make you any report in relation to it. No report has been made to this Grand Lodge for many years concerning it. I cannot inform you of whom the Board of Trustees consist, if such a Board is in existence. The Article of the Constitutions is

plain, explicit, and direct ; and I recommend that a Committee be appointed to examine into the state and disposition of this Fund, and of the interest accruing from it, and report thereon, with the number and names of the Trustees, and of the vacancies, if any, in the Board.

III. THE SINKING FUND,

For the payment of the debt incurred in building this Temple, was established by the Grand Lodge, with the provision, that the moneys constituting this Fund shall be separately invested by the Grand Treasurer, under the direction of the Board of Directors, and pledged to the payment of the debt upon the Temple ; and also, that the Grand Treasurer, at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, shall make a full and exact report of this Fund, of the amount received from each Lodge, the amount invested, and how invested, and of all matters relating thereto.

At the last Annual Meeting of this Grand Lodge, no report was made by the Grand Treasurer in reference to this Fund, as is required by the vote of the Grand Lodge above referred to. The Auditing Committee, at that meeting, reported that, during the past year, in addition to the payment of the current expenses of the Grand Lodge, all taxes, insurance, and interest on the whole debt, our liabilities have been reduced by the sum of \$28,000, and in addition \$23,000 of floating debt have been funded in the bonds having eight years to run. This Committee also verbally reported that the Grand Treasurer was then unable to make a proper and full report of the condition of the Sinking Fund.

Since then no report has been made, except such as I herein after make in behalf of the Grand Treasurer. I recommend that a Committee be appointed to examine into the condition and investment of this Fund, and report thereon to the Grand Lodge.

IV. THE MASONIC TEMPLE

Has been completed and occupied for more than twenty months. The amount of its cost, in the aggregate, has been stated to you

from this place ; but no report has been made to the Grand Lodge by the Board of Directors of the details of this vast expenditure of the money of the Masons of Massachusetts. Every affiliated Mason in this jurisdiction has been, and still is, paying money towards the extinguishment of the debt created in this erection. They have the right to an open, plain, business-like statement of all the expenditures incurred. In addition to this, a complete, detailed, financial history of this building should be put upon the Records of this Grand Lodge for the benefit of future generations. The corporation is ephemeral. Let us hope that the Grand Lodge is not so. In 1817, this Grand Lodge received from the State government a Charter similar to what it now has, but, in less than fifteen years, it was surrendered, and the corporation ceased to exist. The Grand Lodge, with its Records, survives ; but where now are the Records of that corporation ? A new Charter was granted in 1859, and this corporation may have as short a life as the first.

More than all, the Grand Lodge should have upon its Records an inventory of all the personal property which embellish these halls.

I recommend that a Committee, composed of brethren of financial experience, be appointed to examine into, and report in detail upon, the contracts and expenses of this building ; that they report an inventory of the personal property, and cost thereof, belonging to the Grand Lodge, contained in the Temple ; and that they have full access to all the books, papers, and documents of the Board of Directors, and of the Grand Treasurer, for the better performance of this duty.

V. CHARTERS.

At present there exist no copies, in the archives of the Grand Lodge, of the Charters granted to subordinate Lodges.

In form, these Charters are substantially alike, and copies can now be readily obtained from those Lodges in existence.

I recommend that some means be devised to procure and pre-

serve in the Grand Secretary's office a copy of every charter granted by the Grand Lodge to its subordinates, and after copies be retained of all Charters granted. I refer to your consideration.

VI. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Immediately after the organization of the Grand Lodge, December last, met, and, at a meeting held on the 4th of January, 1869, passed the following vote: "That the sum of \$1,000 be accepted, until otherwise ordered, for the Charter Fee of the Grand Lodge." The pressing necessities of the Committee of the Board demanded the passage of this vote, it is now reported to you, and its confirmation by the Grand Lodge requested.

The floating debt amounts now to \$60,000, and has been fully reduced the last year. The whole amount of money received from the brethren for the Sinking Fund amounts to \$1,000,000 and is apportioned among the several Districts as follows:

	No. of Lodges.	Am't paid in 1868.
District No. 1, Boston	15 . . .	\$1,781.00 . .
" 2, Charlestown	10 . . .	1,278.00 . .
" 3, Roxbury	11 . . .	1,797.00 . .
" 4, Cambridge	10 . . .	1,051.00 . .
" 5, Salem	10 . . .	1,167.00 . .
" 6, Newburyport	10 . . .	1,878.75 . .
" 7, Lowell	10 . . .	1,680.75 . .
" 8, Greenfield	9 . . .	816.75 . .
" 9, Pittsfield	8 . . .	617.25 . .
" 10, Springfield	10 . . .	1,151.25 . .
" 11, Worcester	10 . . .	1,498.50 . .
" 12, Milford	11 . . .	835.25 . .
" 13, Taunton	11 . . .	1,194.00 . .
" 14, New Bedford	10 . . .	1,152.00 . .
" 15, Barnstable	9 . . .	818.00 . .
" 16, Plymouth	10 . . .	1,959.25 . .
	164 . . .	\$20,170.60 . .
Collected by Grand Treasurer in small sums		15,098.75 . .
Total amount collected in 1868		\$35,269.25 . .
Add amount collected in 1867		25,009.00 . .
Total amount received to January 1, 1869		\$60,278.25 . .

If this Commutation Tax of Eight Dollars is adopted by the Grand Lodge, it is to be hoped that strenuous exertions will be made by all the brethren to pay up this amount, and thus relieve the embarrassments of the Board of Directors. The District Deputy Grand Masters are especially urged to present this matter to the Lodges of their respective Districts, and urge upon them renewed endeavors to pay the tax in the manner proposed. The Board of Directors have appointed Brothers Sereno D. Nickerson, Percival L. Everett, and Warren Fisher, Jr., a Committee on Finance, and to these brethren, as well as to one other whose name needs not to be mentioned in Sutton Hall, the Grand Lodge is indebted this day for the preservation of its credit. These brethren have labored in season and out of season, with their private funds as frequently as with those of the Grand Lodge, to meet the oft accruing liabilities. To aid them in this labor of love, they ask the co-operation of the brethren in the payment of the tax.

It will be seen that about one-third of this tax has been paid by the brethren. If the remaining two-thirds could be collected this year, it would place the Grand Lodge in a condition of comparative ease.

Will the brethren, now that they are acquainted with all the pressing necessities of the Board of Directors, join heart and hand in supporting those whom they have chosen to act for them, and help sustain the burden?

On the 14th of December, 1859, the Committee on Finance of the Grand Lodge made the following report, which I desire to read to you *in extenso* : —

“The Committee have attended to the duty of examining the books of the Recording Grand Secretary, and find the Records have been correctly kept and faithfully transcribed.

“The Committee have also examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the past year ; and, as to all items thereof, except those relative to the Winthrop House estate, he has exhibited

the proper vouchers ; — as to those excepted items, your Committee must refer to the Board of Directors of this Grand Lodge, under whose authority these items have been received and paid ; all the accounts are correctly cast, and the balance on hand December, 10, 1859, the date of the examination, was, in cash, \$2,048.15. Annexed is a statement of the Grand Treasurer's account to date. The accounts of the Treasurer have heretofore only shown the amount of cash received and paid by him during the year.

"Your Committee think that, considering the large amount and great variety of the estate and property of the Grand Lodge, a more complete system of book-keeping ought to be adopted, — one that would of itself show a full statement of the condition of the property of the Grand Lodge, — and for that purpose would recommend that an inventory and valuation of all the property of the Grand Lodge be made by a Committee to be appointed, and that the Grand Treasurer be directed to enter the same in his books, and after classifying the same in some suitable manner, to open and keep impersonal accounts as to each class in such manner as to show the state and condition in full of each class, with the cost thereof ; and that expenses be classified in like manner in his accounts.

Signed,

S. P. OLIVER.

W. H. L. SMITH.

SOLOM THORNTON."

The carrying out of these recommendations was referred to the same Committee. The next year (1860), the Committee on Finance made its last Report, but no allusion is made to the subject matter of the above Report, which was referred to them.

An Auditing Committee, such as now exists, took the place of the Committee on Finance.

Each of the above-named brethren subsequently became members of the Board of Directors ; but I find no movement made by

them, either in the Board or in the Grand Lodge, to carry out the wise suggestions of that Report.

Since then (1859), no inventory of the property of the Grand Lodge has been taken, so far as I can ascertain; and to-day no such inventory exists. Since the organization of the present Board of Directors, a Committee has been appointed to make an inventory and valuation of the property of the Grand Lodge. When completed, if satisfactory to you, it will be entered upon the Records.

From the date of that Report to the present time, no system of book-keeping has been adopted save that mentioned by the Committee.

The Grand Treasurer's books show simply the amount of money received, and from whom; and the amount of money paid, and to whom. It hardly seems credible that half a million of dollars could be expended, and the accounts kept in that manner, with any proper knowledge of the transactions.

For the purpose of establishing some system of book-keeping, the Board of Directors, on the second of February last, passed the following vote:—

“ That the various items of expenditure of the Grand Lodge be charged to the following accounts:—

- “ Grand Master's account.
- “ Grand Secretary's account,
- “ Grand Treasurer's account,
- “ District Deputy Grand Masters' account;
- “ Interest,
- “ Temple expense,
- “ Charity,
- “ Incidental expenses.”

It should, in justice to the Grand Treasurer, be stated, that he is in nowise responsible for the manner in which the accounts and books have been kept. He is not a member of the Board of Directors, and knows nothing of its doings, except as he is

informed. He cannot charge his payments to any appropriation or impersonal account, without special directions; nor can he credit his receipts to such accounts without instruction from the Board.

Whether the system which has just been inaugurated is a wise one, time only can determine. Whether it meets with your approbation, is for you to decide.

While alluding to the Board of Directors, I desire to call your attention to what may justly be considered a growing evil, viz., the concentration of the powers of the Grand Lodge in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors dedicated this Temple. In March, 1867, the M.W. Grand Master announced from this station, "that the dedication of the New Masonic Temple would take place on the 24th of June next." The Grand Lodge passed no vote in relation to it; raised no Committee; took no action whatever. This was all done by the Board of Directors. They voted when the Temple should be dedicated, — who should be invited to witness it, — what should be done, — and who should do it. All this was within the peculiar province of the Grand Lodge. Whether the Grand Lodge would have been as successful as the Board of Directors were, need not be even asked. This is referred to as an instance of the evil to which I call your attention.

So, in the erection of this building, the Board of Directors have kept the Grand Lodge entirely in the dark in relation to the details. A Committee of this Grand Lodge, in March, 1867, reported that the expense of this Temple and its furniture, when completed, and it was then within three months of completion, would be \$300,000; and the Committee thought that they were making liberal estimates of the expenses; and yet, in the same copy of the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge in which that Report is published, the Grand Master, in his address, makes the cost \$453,532.03; more than \$150,000 above what your Committee were permitted to know at the time they made their report. The Grand Lodge should have no close corporation

within it. If it has been necessary, under the peculiar circumstances in which the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge have been permitted to exist, to keep all knowledge of those affairs carefully preserved in the breasts of a few, it is believed that the necessity does not now exist, and that it is better for all that our true condition should be known, at least, to all the members of the Grand Lodge.

I am touching upon delicate ground, because it may be said that I am complaining of previous administrations. It is not my intention so to do. I *am* complaining of a system, which is growing up here, of ignoring this Grand Lodge, composed of the Representatives of the great Body of Masonry in Massachusetts.

Soon after the first Charter was granted, in 1817, to the Grand Lodge, a great jealousy sprung up among the brethren against the corporation. Much ill-feeling existed, and strong language was made use of. To such an extent did this grow, that a Committee of Inquiry was raised to examine into and report upon the disaffection. The report of this Committee is spread upon the Records; and it appears that the brethren complained of claimed that the language used was made in the exercise of rights and duties of members of the Grand Lodge.

Although this strong feeling existed at that time against the Act of Incorporation, an examination of the By-Laws, as they were then called instead of Constitutions, will show how much more power was reserved to the Grand Lodge itself—to the corporation—than has been under our present system. They made the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, and Recording Grand Secretary, a Board of Trustees of the real and personal estate of the Grand Lodge, the tenure of which was in the name and for the behoof of “the Master, Wardens, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts”; and a majority of them had the power to use the seal for the purpose of carrying into effect all the contracts and resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge. The said Trustees, or a majority of them, had power to do and transact all things relative to the real and

personal property of the Grand Lodge, in the name and in the behalf of the corporation, which were not in the By-Laws otherwise provided for.

The Grand Lodge could then hold real estate to the amount of \$20,000 only, and personal estate to the amount of \$60,000. An examination of the Records shows that the vote of the Grand Lodge was required for the Treasurer to sell a \$100 United-States Bond. The brethren voted upon nearly every matter connected with the finances. The By-Laws or Constitutions also required that a financial statement of the affairs of the Grand Lodge should be annually communicated to the several Lodges.

It would have been almost impossible, at least very inconvenient, to carry on the great work which has been done here by the Grand Lodge, as a voluntary association. The machinery of a corporation was necessary, and no one at this day can regret that recourse was had to it.

With such power as legitimately belongs to the Board of Directors, its influence is great and extensive enough, without absorbing those rights and prerogatives which appertain exclusively to this Grand Body. They have labor sufficient in taking care of the Finances, and should not be burdened with other cares.

Thus, brethren, I have given you my views, very briefly, in relation to matters which I consider of great moment in the administration of the affairs of the Grand Lodge, at the first opportunity which has presented itself.

I was unwilling to go on as your Grand Master without coming to a fair understanding, and giving you as true a statement as I could of the condition of the Grand Lodge. It is for you now to say whether it shall continue as it has, or whether you will take immediate steps to remedy the defects which have been pointed out. At any rate, brethren, I have done my duty to you in this particular.

The following Lodges presented Amendments to their By-laws for approval, viz., Hampden, Mystic, Roswell Lee, David and Ionic (Taunton), North Star and Mount Lebanon (Woburn), and, on motion, they were referred to V. Br. William F. Salmon, W. Br. E. A. Wadleigh, and V. Br. Charles A. Welch.

Proceedings in case of Mount Zion Lodge against Br. J. B. Gorham, and in case of Acacia Lodge against Br. Charles Raymond, were presented for approval, and, on motion, referred to R.W. Brothers Tracy P Cheever, L. H. Peirson, and George H. Peirson.

A petition, signed by H. B. Childs and eight other members, for the restoration of the Charter of Morning Sun Lodge, Conway, was received and referred to R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, W. Brothers Franklin H. Sprague and L. Chessman.

W. Br. William F. Salmon was recognized as proxy for Ancient Landmark Lodge, Shanghae, China; Br. Michael J. Doak for Philanthropic Lodge, Marblehead; and Br. Charles Raymond for Plymouth Lodge, Plymouth.

W. Br. Tracy P Cheever, Chairman of the Committee on Appeals, referred the proceedings of Sagadahew Lodge, Wrentham, in the trial of Br. Edwin M. Littlefield, and the proceedings of Jerusalem Lodge, in the trial of Brothers H. Loomis and D. D. Gardner, Jr., also the proceedings of North Star Lodge, in the trial of Br. Silas D. Bates, and the following reports : —

SAGGAHEW LODGE vs. EDWIN M. LITTLEFIELD.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 10, 1869.

The committee to whom was referred the record of the proceedings of Saggahew Lodge, Haverhill, in the trial of Br. Edwin M. Littlefield, have examined with care the papers submitted in the case, and report, —

That the charges against the respondent were, first, intemperance ; second, lying ; third, deserting his family. The accused was not present at the trial ; but was notified in accordance with the regulations of the Grand Lodge, and great pains were evidently taken by the Lodge, in this as well as in other particulars, that all the rules applicable to such a proceeding should be carefully observed. The charges were abundantly sustained by the evidence, and the verdict of guilty and the sentence were by a unanimous vote. The record is elegantly made up, and is a model of its kind. In order, however, that the clear intent of the Lodge may be carried out, the committee recommend the alteration of the record in respect to the sentence, as follows : by striking out the word " Order " and inserting the words " rights and privileges of Masonry."

With this amendment, the committee recommend the confirmation of the proceedings of Saggahew Lodge in this case, the record of which may be studied with advantage by other Lodges that may have occasion to place a member upon trial.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

GEORGE H. PIERSON.

L. H. GAMWELL.

On motion of W. Br. Rev. Charles H. Titus, the report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

JERUSALEM LODGE vs. H. W. LOOMIS.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 10, 1869.

The committee to whom the proceedings of Jerusalem Lodge, Northampton, in the trial of Br. H. W. Loomis, were referred, respectfully report, —

That, upon an examination of the record, it appears that the accused was charged with the commission of acts of "gross immorality and fraud." The proceedings were conducted according to the Grand Regulations, and the result was the conviction of the respondent, and his expulsion from membership. From the evidence, as it appears by the record, there can be no doubt of the justice of the action of the Lodge in the case, and the committee recommend that it be confirmed by the Grand Lodge.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

GEORGE W. PEIRSON.

L. H. GAMWELL.

JERUSALEM LODGE vs. D. D. GARDNER, JR.

IN GRAND LODGE, March 10, 1869.

The committee appointed to examine the record of the proceedings of Jerusalem Lodge, Northampton, in the trial of Br. D. D. Gardner, Jr., have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully report, —

That the record in this case discloses a strict conformity with the Grand Regulations, as well as a praiseworthy charity and leniency towards the accused, who has repeatedly, prior to the trial, been guilty of the offence for which he was at last tried, viz., open and gross intoxication. The evidence in support of the charge was ample and conclusive. The conviction was by a unanimous vote, as well as the sentence, which was expulsion from membership. The Lodge would have been warranted in the severe sentence of expulsion from the rights and privileges of Masonry. The committee recommend that the proceedings be confirmed.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

GEORGE H. PEIRSON.

L. H. GAMWELL.

It appearing that the result of the above trials in Jerusalem Lodge was simply expulsion from membership, and re-

quiring no action of this Grand Lodge, it was, of R.W. Br. W. F. Salmon, *Voted*, That the p be referred back to the Lodge.

NORTH STAR LODGE vs. SILAS D. BATE

IN GRAND LODGE, March

The committee to whom was referred the record of proceedings of North Star Lodge, Ashland, upon the trial respectfully submit the following report, —

That they have considered the proceedings in this case with much care and deliberation as they could bestow upon it, not only because of its intrinsic interest, but because of the principles involved, and their relation to all masonic questions. What constitutes a masonic offence? has, perhaps, never been determined with accuracy, and certainly not with uniformity. It is perhaps impossible, by any verbal definition, to define perfectly, in all cases, a crime or an offence in Masonry. The compass cannot describe a circle inside of which it always exists, and outside of which it can never be found. There are no lines in moral geometry within which the line of duty may always be traced. Accordingly, there is no strict code or classification of offences. Yet such is the nature of the Fraternity that the absence of a written criminal code can hardly be regarded as a defect. So much depends upon the facts and circumstances of the particular case, upon the relation of the accused sustains to others, upon the intent, of the act. Municipal law does not always take cognizance, nay, it often ignores the temper and manners, that we at once realize the necessity of declaring in advance what shall be deemed an offence in Masonry. It would be manifestly absurd to hold that an act which contravenes the civil law is a crime against this Fraternity, although obedience to law and the constituted authorities of the State is one of our fundamental doctrines. Never would this Lodge would expel, or even try one of its members for being a dog without a license, or for neglecting to shovel the

his sidewalk. Some acts, also, which in contemplation of the law are fraudulent, being made so, perhaps, by the express words of the statute, such as the preference by a bankrupt of a particular creditor, and other acts known as legal frauds, are not therefore and necessarily offences against Masonry. On the contrary, it is not difficult to find cases where the fraud in law is clear, and yet the act itself is entirely innocent, and perhaps commendable, when tried by the rule of masonic right.

On the other hand, there is a large class of statute crimes, such as felonies and other offences involving moral obliquity and turpitude ; — offences as to which all right-minded men, as well as all Masons, are in harmony with the law, and of which it is the imperative duty of Lodges to take cognizance, even should they anticipate the Grand Jury or the Police Court. As such crimes are directed against the law, against society as a whole, and against the right of the peace of the individual, they are necessarily crimes against an institution sacredly devoted to the protection of all these interests.

Another large class of offences which may be deemed masonic offences consists of acts clearly and directly opposed to our Constitutions and established regulations, to those cardinal principles known as the general tenets of the Fraternity, and to the special obligations involved in the ritual, and voluntarily assumed by every initiate. Thus, acts against the cardinal virtue of justice, persistent intemperance, wilful or habitual violation of the regulations of the Grand Lodge, or the By-Laws of a subordinate Lodge, the disclosure to the uninitiated of the secrets or the private business of the Lodge, the failure to comply with those ties of obligation which should be most sacredly observed, though perhaps involving other elements of wrong and wickedness, are to be considered as strictly masonic offences. This enumeration is not intended to exclude many cases which, as has been before observed, do not admit of classification or definition. Whenever it shall be found that the acts of a brother are clearly adverse to the principles or regulations of the Craft, or the rights or hap-

piness of any of its members, it will be the duty of his Lodge to try him for those acts, although the offence involved was never described or known before on sea or land.

The attempt, thus briefly and imperfectly made, to discover the nature and character of that which should be known as a masonic offence leads us next to consider the manners and methods under which the trial for such offence should be conducted. The absence of a settled code or classification of offences furnishes in itself a strong reason for the observance of the highest care, caution, and accuracy in the conduct of all masonic trials. Certain regulations, of the most obvious necessity, for such trials, have been adopted by this Grand Lodge, but they are mostly external in their character, and only intended to meet the plainest and simplest rights of the parties. The true *spirit* of the trial cannot come from mere forms or regulations of the proceeding. There is another unwritten law higher than the regulations of this Grand Body, but with which they are in harmony. When the accused appears before the Lodge to answer the charges against him, and the trial proceeds, he should be met by that spirit of justice, charity, and fairness which, while it be large enough to comprehend the Lodge and the whole Fraternity, is not too large to overlook *him*. While the specified regulations are to be strictly observed in the absence of formulas of language, he is not to be oppressed or to be shielded by any merely technical vote. The charges of the written accusation should be made in clear and precise terms. When the charge is general in its nature, as for conduct unbecoming a Mason, there should be clear and accurate specifications, so that there may be a distinct issue to be tried, and that the accused may know exactly what he is to meet. The evidence should be strictly confined to the issues on trial, excluding all hearsay. The examinations of the witnesses on either side should be conducted by managers or counsel appointed for that purpose, the members of the Lodge maintaining the dignified demeanor and bearing of judges in the case. The course of the testimony should never be interrupted by com-

mentary upon the case, which always should be reserved for the summing up of each party.

The best and most candid judgment should be expressed in the vote, which is the verdict of the Lodge. The general burden of proof is on the accusers, although that burden may, by the acts or admissions of the accused, be shifted and fall upon his shoulders. Inasmuch as the result of the trial may be the expulsion of the accused from the rights and privileges of Masonry, a disgrace to *him* equivalent to a sentence by the civil judge to an ignominious punishment,—a disgrace in which his family must share, and which his innocent children must bear as a reproach in after life,—he is entitled ordinarily to the vote of every member. In such a case, if a member is not fully satisfied with the proof offered by the prosecution, and upon *all* the evidence has doubts of the guilt of the accused, the accused should have the benefit of the doubts. If, on the other hand, the evidence offered be clear and satisfactory, every member is bound to reject all considerations of fear, favor, or affection, and vote for conviction. At the risk of tediousness, your committee have deemed it proper to submit these general and perhaps trite observations concerning the important subject under consideration.

Applying the principles above stated and the regulations of the Grand Lodge, let us consider the record of North Star Lodge in the case in question. The charge is contained in the following words: "Br. B. is hereby charged with wronging and defrauding brother Master Masons." No specification under the charge was made, although the brethren presenting it demand that the accused shall be "put upon trial upon *said charges and specifications.*" The summons to the supposed delinquent was sufficient in form and duly served, and he was present at the trial, which took place October 28, 1868. There had been a previous trial, the record of which was adjudged erroneous by a committee of this Grand Lodge, in consequence of which the new trial was ordered. The Lodge voted to accept, as evidence in this trial, the records of the evidence in the former one. All the evidence, in

fact, consists of what appeared at that trial, and is a mere transcript, so far as the *evidence* goes, of the first record, no new testimony having been offered. The evidence is highly objectionable, not only in the violation of the regulation excluding hearsay, but from its inferential and argumentative character. We take for example — and this is but one of many such instances — the testimony of Br. C., which was as follows : “ Br. B. hired teams of me to the amount of \$21.25, from January 9, 1867, to May 1, 1867, and boarded his horse from May to October ; previous to this, he had contracted a debt for the board of the same horse at another place, which he was unable to or *did* not pay. I contend that if Br. B. knew at that time that he could not pay, that he was knowingly wronging and defrauding.”

In addition to testimony of this character, of which the record is full, it seems that the members of the Lodge were permitted to interrupt the course of the testimony by a running commentary and argument upon it, and also upon matters entirely collateral and irrelevant. This was done frequently during the trial.

So far as any specified offences under the charge can be gathered from the record, they may be reduced to three, viz., first, the hiring of teams and boarding of a horse, without payment therefor ; second, not paying for the painting of a buggy ; and third, not paying hired help after the accused had gone into bankruptcy. As to the first, the testimony of the brother of whom the accused hired the teams, &c., was that he could not state positively that he had ever presented the bill to Br. B., the latter testifying that the bill had not been presented. In respect to the second charge above mentioned, the brother who did the work testified that he had twice asked B. to pay the bill, but he had not paid it. As to the charge of not paying his help after going into chancery, the accused made an exculpatory explanation, stating matters as facts which were not contradicted. These three specifications, which we extract from the testimony alone, furnish the substance of what was claimed to constitute the offence and guilt of the

accused ; although other matters collateral, and not related to the accusation, appear profusely in the record. It is not to be doubted that a Mason may so conduct his business affairs as to make the condition of bankruptcy itself, or its accompanying acts, an offence for which he may be tried and punished. But bankruptcy alone, and the non-payment of debts alone, are not offences against Masonry. The intent to wrong and defraud must clearly appear, or our Institution must be closed against the simply poor or unfortunate. Viewed in this light, it is at least doubtful if the acts charged in North Star Lodge against Br. B. can be regarded as constituting a masonic offence. If they are to be thus regarded, it is certainly doubtful whether, upon the evidence presented by the record, the accused is guilty.

It further appears that quite a number of the brethren present at the trial did not vote ; the vote standing fourteen for conviction to four for acquittal. The record does not show the exact number of those present but upon examination of the names of brethren who participated in the proceedings, either as witnesses or commentators, but who did not vote (for which neglect no reason is offered), it is uncertain whether the fourteen brethren voting for conviction constituted a majority of the members present.

The sentence was suspension from the rights and privileges of Masonry ; the effect of which, according to our definitions, is to exclude the brother "from all his masonic privileges, and prohibits all masonic intercourse between him and his brethren during the time of his suspension."

By Section 2, Article 5, of the Constitutions, it is provided that, "whenever this Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, and shall restore to him the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent."

If, therefore, in the judgment of the Grand Lodge, the proceedings of North Star Lodge in the trial of Br. B. are

erroneous, and the verdict should be set aside, his membership in his Lodge is lost, unless restored in the manner indicated, but his relations with the whole Fraternity will be renewed. He will still be open to the warm charities, as well as to the discipline and reproof, of the brethren at large.

Your committee, in view of the great interest and importance of the questions involved, scarcely deem an apology necessary for this long and perhaps tedious report. It is by no means to be considered as reflecting upon the perfect honor and rectitude of purpose or the masonic fidelity of the members of North Star Lodge, against which nothing can be averred or presumed. But their acts in this case must be judged by the record as we find it, upon which your committee are unanimously of the opinion that the proceedings cannot be sustained, and that the accused should be restored to the benefits and privileges of Masonry.

TRACY P. CHEEVER.

GEORGE H. PIERSON.

L. H. GAMWELL.

On motion of R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, the report was accepted and the recommendation adopted.

The following resolutions, presented by R.W. Br. Henry Chickering, were adopted unanimously :—

Resolved, That the Address of the M.W. Grand Master be referred to a Committee of five for examination, and that they also nominate persons to compose the Committees therein recommended.

Resolved, That the Address be at once printed, and copies sent to each Lodge in the jurisdiction for the information of the Fraternity.

Resolved, That the action of the Board of Directors, fixing eight dollars (\$8.00) as the commutation-fee for the Grand-Lodge Capitation Tax, be approved and confirmed.

conformity to the first resolution, the Most Worshipful
 Master appointed for the Committee R.W. Br.
 Chickering, W. Brothers N. T. Merritt, Franklin H.
 Adams, Theodore Adams, and Charles H. Norris.
 The Committee to whom was referred the Amendments to
 the By-Laws presented for approval, presented the following
 report, which was adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, March 10, 1869.

M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Committee to whom was referred the Amendments of the
 By-Laws of North Star Lodge, Ashland ; Ionic Lodge, Taunton ;
 David Lodge, Taunton ; Hampden Lodge, Springfield ;
 Ell Lee Lodge, Springfield ; Mystic Lodge, Pittsfield ; and
 Horeb, Woburn, have examined the same, and report
 that the Amendments all refer to the internal financial affairs of
 several Lodges, and are all in accordance with the Constitu-
 tion of the M.W. Grand Lodge, and we recommend that they be
 adopted.

W. F. SALMON.

EDWIN A. WADLEIGH.

CHARLES A. WELCH.

A motion of R.W. Br. Andrew G. Smith, the report
 accepted and the recommendation adopted.

G. Master Winslow Lewis offered the following : —

Desire to present to this Grand Lodge a memorial which
 always permanently and gratefully read to all its members
 in remembrance of one of its best sons, — one whose face is but
 a monument of his generous heart.

This is a marble bust of R.W. Br. William Sutton, by an Italian
 artist, — to be placed so as to meet the eyes of all who may
 assemble and to remind every brother that this is SUTTON
 Hall, and that here particularly should be engendered and dif-

fused those principles which have ever been the guides and prompters of deeds which shall never be forgotten by any masonic son of Massachusetts.

On motion, this was referred to W. Br. John A. Goodwin, and R. W. Brothers G. W. Warren and Charles W. Moore, with full power to select a suitable place in the Masonic Temple for the bust.

The Committee on Past Grand Master Dame's Address were granted further time. Further time was also granted the Committee on the Address of the M. W. Grand Master, and to the Committee on the Petition of Lewis Hayden and others.

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of Br. H. B. Childs and others, for the restoration of the Charter of Morning Sun Lodge, made the following report, which was, on motion of W. Br. Henry P. Perkins, accepted, and the recommendation adopted : —

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of H. B. Childs and others, for the restoration of the Charter of the late Morning Sun Lodge, of Conway, respectfully report, —

That the Charter of said Lodge was revoked and taken up by the Grand Lodge in or about the year 1835, and the conditions of the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge not having then been complied with, there is no authority for its restoration as applied for.

Your Committee recommend that a dispensation be granted as prayed for by the accompanying petition when the Grand Master shall be satisfied that the provisions of the Constitutions have been complied with.

CHARLES W. MOORE.

A. G. SMITH.

W. H. CHESSMAN.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

JUNE 9, A.L. 5869.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION OF THE M.W. GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, Wednesday, June 9, A.L. 5869.

P R E S E N T.

M.W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER . . .	Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY . . .	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. IVORY H. POPE	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Cor. Grand Secretary.
R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH	D.D.G. Master, District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P. CHEEVER	" " District No. 2.
R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP	" " District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	" " District No. 5.
R.W. LEMUEL A. BISHOP	" " District No. 6.
R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS	" " District No. 7.
R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK	" " District No. 8.
R.W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	" " District No. 10.
R.W. CHARLES G. REED	" " District No. 11.
R.W. GEORGE E. STACY	" " District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT	" " District No. 13.
R.W. JOHN A. LEE	" " District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr.	" " District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	" " District No. 16.
W. REV. CHARLES H. TITUS	Grand Chaplain.
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON <i>as</i>	Grand Marshal.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. LUCIUS W. LOVELL	Grand Steward.
W. SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Standard-Bearer.
W. CHARLES KIMBALL	Grand Pursuivant.
W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, }	
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	Past Grand Master.
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
R.W. CHARLES C. DAME	" " "
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. LUCIUS R. PAIGE	" " " "
R.W. G. W. WARREN	" " " "
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	Past Grand Warden.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at two o'clock, P.M., with prayer by W. Br. Rev. Charles H. Titus, Junior Grand Chaplain.

The record of the last Communication was read.

The roll of the Lodges was called, and the following found to be represented : —

ATHELSTANE.	JOSEPH WARREN.	PAUL REVERE.
ACACIA.	KING DAVID.	PAUL DEAN.
BAALBEC.	KONOHASSETT.	QUINNEBAUG.
BETHESDA.	LAFAYETTE,	ROSWELL LEE.
BELMONT.	(Boston Highlands).	RURAL.
BLUE HILL.	LIBERTY.	ST. JOHN'S (Boston).
COLUMBIAN.	MOUNT TABOR.	ST. ANDREW'S.
CHICOPEE.	MOUNT CARMEL.	STAR OF BETHLEHEM.
DALHOUSIE.	MOUNT HERMON.	ST. PAUL'S.
DORIC.	MIDDLESEX.	ST JOHN'S,
ESSEX.	MOUNT OLIVET.	(Newburyport).
EUREKA.	MERRIMAC.	SAGGAHEW.
FRANKLIN.	MONTACUTE.	SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.
FRATERNAL.	MONTGOMERY.	STAR IN THE EAST.
GERMANIA.	MOUNT HOPE.	ST. BERNARD'S.
GATE OF THE TEMPLE.	NORFOLK UNION.	TYRIAN.
HENRY PRICE.	OLIVE BRANCH.	TUSCAN.
HOPE.	ORPHANS' HOPE.	UNION.
HAMPDEN.	PEQUOSSETTE.	UNITED BRETHREN.
HYDE PARK.	PENTUCKET.	WINSLOW LEWIS.
IONIC (Taunton).	PILGRIM.	WASHINGTON.
ISAAC PARKER.	PLYMOUTH.	WILLIAM PARKMAN.
	ANCIENT LANDMARK, (Shanghai, China).	ZETLAND.

The M.W. Grand Master delivered the following —

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE, — Ever since the formation of a Grand Lodge in Massachusetts, it has been customary to establish subordinate Lodges outside of its territory, in those countries and States where Grand Lodges of the York Rite did not exist. In conformity with this practice, in 1853, Bethesda Lodge was located at Valparaiso, Chili, S.A., by dispensation of the Grand Master; and, in 1854, a charter was granted. The M. W. George M. Randall, alluding to the establishment of this Lodge in his annual address in December, 1853, remarked: "It is an interesting fact, that from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts were issued the first charters for the organization of Lodges, not only in what is now the United States, but in the British Provinces and in the West India Islands. It was, therefore, not inappropriate that our brethren in other parts of this continent, living under another government, and speaking another language, should receive their authority to work from that Grand Lodge which, without any spirit of arrogancy, may justly claim to be the parent of Freemasonry in this Western world."

In December, 1857, Grand Master Heard granted a dispensation to Hiram Lodge of Copiapo, Chili, and a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge in 1859. In November, 1858, a dispensation was issued by Grand Master Heard to form Southern Cross Lodge at Valparaiso, Chili, and a charter was ordered to be issued in 1859.

In the published proceedings of our Grand Lodge for the year ending December, 1860, Southern Cross Lodge appears for the last time, and I can find no mention made of it after that year.

Bethesda Lodge, at Valparaiso, is in a flourishing condition, and recently I have received information that preliminary steps have already been taken by the brethren there to petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge. I have also been informed that there is in existence at Valparaiso a so-called Grand Lodge, which claims

to possess all the powers and prerogatives of a Grand Lodge over Chili. If such a Grand Body of the York Rite, legitimately established, exists there, this Grand Lodge has no right to establish subordinate Lodges in that State, either by dispensation or charter.

This alleged Grand Lodge has published a "*memoria anual*," which I am unable to lay before you. June 1, 1868, it elected its officers for three years. Juan Du Dios Arlequi is Grand Master, and Jose Maldonado, Grand Secretary. It has four subordinates, and is in communication with several Grand Lodges. Its legal existence, however, is denied. At the December quarterly communication of this Grand Lodge, in 1862, a circular from a body purporting to be the Grand Lodge of Chili, a report from our Special Deputy, R.W. Br. George H. Kendall, and a circular letter from W. A. Martin were considered by a committee, and a report was made and adopted recommending the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Chili, and that our Special Deputy, until otherwise directed, be authorized and requested to recognize the Grand Lodge of Chili as a body regularly constituted and organized. But at the June meeting of our Grand Lodge in 1865, a communication from Bethesda Lodge at Valparaiso was received, in which a committee appointed by the Lodge speak of it then as being under our jurisdiction. At the present time, Bethesda Lodge and Copiapo Lodge are upon our registry as subordinates of this Grand Lodge.

It becomes of some importance to determine, at least for ourselves, whether these two Lodges owe allegiance to us, and whether we have the legal right to establish other Lodges in that State. This is a subject which demands your immediate attention.

On the 21st of February, 1866, Grand Master Dame granted a dispensation to certain brethren to form a new Lodge at Arica, in the republic of Peru, S.A., by the name of J. L. Hutchinson Lodge. He also appointed Br. Richard Hartley, of Lima, Special Deputy for that region. So far as I can learn, this Lodge has

never applied for a charter, and we are in receipt of no report concerning it from the Deputy.

Understanding that the town of Arica had been utterly destroyed by the earthquake which made such frightful havoc with the towns and cities upon the coast of Peru, I applied to the honorable Secretary of State at Washington for such information as the Department was in possession of concerning Arica. I received the following communication: —

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, May 18, 1869.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Esq., 27 Tremont street, Boston.

SIR, — In reply to the inquiry in your note of the 14th instant, I inclose herewith a copy of an article published in the "Progreso" of the 19th of August, 1868, and of a letter from the agent of a commercial house, dated Tacua, August 21, 1868, both of which are found in a number of the "Valparaiso and West Coast Mail" of the 3d of September, 1868.

These accounts will give you all the information in the possession of the Department relative to the destruction of Arica by the earthquake of August, 1868, which has been communicated by the U. S. Consul at Valparaiso. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. B. DAVIS, *Assistant Secretary.*

"ARICA. — Having arranged for the necessities of Tarapaca, the writer proceeded to Arica on the night of the 17th instant. We, ourselves, as well as many of our neighbors, had already sent down to the port persons from our staff with the object of endeavoring to protect the goods scattered on the beach. Learning, however, that the disorder which we mentioned in our last had not abated one whit, we considered it our duty to urge the Prefect to rouse himself from his state of apathy.

"Before setting out, we called a meeting of all the parties interested in the loss of the Custom House, and a commission was appointed, authorized to treat with the Prefect on behalf of the commercial body, as to the mode they might consider most advantageous for the protection of their interests.

"On arriving at Arica, we found the most fearful disorder existing. Since the 13th inst., numbers of people from the neighboring valleys, as well as the peons of the port, and the soldiers and sailors had been occupied in breaking open packages, carrying away what they could, and destroying what they did not fancy. In fact, what remained on the beach con-

sisted almost entirely of goods very badly damaged, and heavy articles difficult of carriage. In our interview with the Prefect, we were, of course, promised all we asked. The first thing we required was that a search should be made of the neighboring valleys of Azapa and Chacalluta, where deposits of stolen property were known to exist—the search to be conducted by a government force under a trustworthy officer, to be accompanied by a troop of mules and peons which we had sent down from Tacua to assist in saving any property we might find. We have, however, small hopes of even this first step being carried out.

“The troops are in a state of complete insubordination, and cannot be controlled.

“The authorities have allowed things to come to such a pass, that they are now at the mercy of the rabble. Words cannot describe the state of affairs in Arica. The town is like the carcass of an animal being torn to pieces by dogs and vultures, who quarrel and fight over their prey. In all directions are drunken men reeling about, many with bare knives in hand, ready for any enormity.

“It is a horrible spectacle. Above all, the reverberations of the earthquakes are continually felt. A more striking picture we have never seen.

“There is not a launch or boat left; and, of course, there are no means for the landing or shipping of any goods or provisions that may arrive. The small steamer Ecuador is still safe, and we have urged the agent of the steamer company to despatch her south in quest of launches. We have also urged the necessity of erecting a temporary mole, which could be formed out of the ruins that are near the beach. For this work, however, there are no hands yet to be obtained. We have urged also, on the Prefect, the necessity of establishing a custom-house in Tacua; in fact, the old custom-house exists, but permission must be obtained to use it. It will take some months to repair the railroad, the track at the Arica end being washed away, and the rest of the line much damaged. The only locomotive saved is the one that happened to be in Tacua during the disaster.

“Arica was invaded by eleven tidal waves, the first coming in some fifteen minutes after the shocks, and the last about ten o'clock at night.

“Unfortunately, we cannot say the same with respect to the surrounding places, for all the news arriving from them inform us of the complete ruin of towns and villages, such as Moquegua, Locumba, Sama, and other places, the buildings of which have fallen down, and the vintage is completely lost.

"However serious these accidents may be, they are mere trifles when compared with the disasters suffered on the coast. After the earthquake, the sea was elevated to an enormous height, estimated to have been nearly twenty feet, and rushed in shore where the town of Arica was situated, the houses of which place, already damaged by the earthquake, were now almost completely destroyed. After this, the sea retired, uncovering a large tract of the beach; and this was the moment when the inhabitants who had escaped the first eruption were able to save their lives by climbing up the hills, especially the one called Morro de Arica, which forms the southern limit of the town. From there they could see the wave rushing over the town and the surrounding places, sweeping them clean, so that when the sea retired, there was nothing left but a heap of ruins and the barren beach, where not the slightest traces were to be met of the once flourishing town, with its beautiful buildings, — the Custom-House, the agency of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, the office of the Captain of the Port, the workshops of the railroad company, two churches, several hotels, and the houses of all the merchants.

"The loss of goods in the custom-house is estimated at two millions of dollars; and the loss in buildings and the goods in the town cannot be calculated at less than three millions.

"The railroad is destroyed for a distance of six miles, and broken in several other places; the cars, engines, and other articles of the stock have been found at considerable distances from the terminus. The number of dead is unknown as yet, but there will not be less than three hundred in a population of from seven to eight thousand inhabitants. Up to this moment, it has not been possible to bury all the dead bodies, the putrefaction of which already begins to produce dangerous exhalations.

"The inhabitants are now occupied in searching for their property buried among the ruins, and it is very distressing to state that they have to defend themselves against the rapacity of the mob. As to the vessels riding at anchor in the bay, some of them have been sent high up on the beach, while others have been completely swallowed up by the sea. The N. A. man-of-war "Wateree" has been beached with all her crew; the Peruvian war steamer "America" has lost her captain, some of her officers, and part of her crew; the "Chanarcillo," an English vessel, loading wool, has been dashed to pieces; the N. A. storeship "Fredonia" and the Chilean coaster "Regalon" have disappeared. Mrs. Johnson, wife of the executive officer of the "Wateree," was killed by the falling of a wall while endeavoring to escape."

In December last, R.W. Br. T. B. Eames was re-appointed

Special Deputy for China. I have since ascertained that he has been elected and installed Master of the Ancient Landmark Lodge at Shanghai, and that, therefore, he was ineligible to the office of Deputy. His commission was, accordingly, revoked, and W. Br. William D. Blanchard was appointed to the office. His commission has been forwarded, with special powers, to the W. Master of Ancient Landmark Lodge, to install him as our Deputy. I am happy to inform you that this Lodge at Shanghai continues to be in a most flourishing and successful condition.

These are all the subordinates which our Grand Lodge now has outside of the State of Massachusetts; the one at Panama under dispensation having become extinct within the last few years.

Soon after the closing of the Grand Lodge in March last, I received a document from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, complaining of the Grand Orient of France, in recognizing certain clandestine Lodges established in the city of New Orleans. I also received other documents upon the same subject from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Louisiana, from a body called the Grand Consistory of Louisiana, and from Brothers Albert Pike and Josiah H. Drummoud, who style themselves Sovereign Grand Commanders of the Southern and Northern Jurisdictions of the United States, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

These communications appear to be of so much importance, as affecting Grand Lodges upon this continent, that I referred them immediately to a committee, consisting of R.W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, Charles W. Moore, and Lucius R. Paige, in order that they might report thereon at this meeting.

On the 13th day of May last, the Recording Grand Secretary informed me that he had received the sad intelligence from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, that M.W. Br. Allyn Weston, Past Grand Master of Masons in Colorado, had suddenly died in the city of New York, and that his remains would be brought to Massachusetts for interment. I appointed R.

W. Brothers William Parkman, John McClellan, and Solon Thornton a committee to take charge of his remains upon their arrival in Massachusetts, and to see that the dying request of our distinguished brother, that he should be buried with masonic honors, might be complied with.

The time was so short, after the committee took charge, before the funeral, that they found it impossible to notify the officers and members of the Grand Lodge to attend; but they requested the W. Master of Corner Stone Lodge at Duxbury, where the interment was to take place, to summon his Lodge and conduct the burial service. This was cordially acceded to, and the Past Grand Master was consigned to his last resting place on earth, in conformity with the solemn ceremonial of Masonry.

I regret that it was not in my power to be personally present, and assist in paying the last sad honors to our lamented brother. The committee will report to you their doings.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the 24th day of March, 1869, the following vote was passed :

Voted, That all moneys received by the Grand Treasurer under the decree of the Grand Lodge, passed March 13, 1867, be, until otherwise ordered, invested in liquidating the debts of the Grand Lodge, and that this vote be reported to the Grand Lodge at its next quarterly communication.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on the 17th day of May, 1869, the following vote was passed :

Voted, That the Board of Directors request the Grand Lodge to pass the following order :

Ordered, That the commutation of Eight Dollars in full, for tax on account of sinking fund, for payment of debt on the Temple, authorized at the meeting of Grand Lodge in March last, be received until the 15th day of November, 1869, and that after that date there shall be no further commutation; but the tax of one dollar per year, on those who have not then paid, shall remain as originally ordered.

On motion of R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, the was referred to R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore Brothers Charles H. Titus and Baalis Sanford, Jr.

R.W. Br. Charles Levi Woodbury, in behalf of the Committee charged to examine the complaint of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana against the Grand Orient made the following:

REPORT.

THE Committee whom the Grand Master has charged to examine the complaint of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana against the Grand Orient of France, arising from the recognition by the latter of a specialization of the Scotch Rite in Louisiana, who claim to control the three degrees of Freemasonry, have had before them the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and those of the Chapter of Louisiana, and those of the Grand Commandery of the Supreme Councils of the A. A. Scottish Rite for the Southern and Northern jurisdictions of the United States. They have also carefully the report of the committee of the Grand Orient on the decree of its Grand Master founded thereon, and they report the facts appear to be:—

There are two jurisdictions in the United States of the Scotch Rite, the Northern and the Southern, each governed by a Supreme Council, and having defined limits of territory within which its power extends. Louisiana, since she became a State, in 1812, has belonged to the Southern jurisdiction. The pretended Supreme Council for Louisiana is derived from the authority of either of these Councils, nor is it recognized by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. Its history, as we gather from the report in the bulletins of the Grand Orient, is, that after the Scotch Masons of Louisiana had given their allegiance to the Southern jurisdiction, the union of those claiming the Rite had been made in the United States, and by the authorities of the Scottish Rite in the Grand Orient in France, a man named Foulhouse, who held the thirty-third degree of the Grand Orient, undertook, by the authority, in 1858, to create a Supreme Council for Louisiana, to practise the Scotch Rite in opposition to the Southern Supreme Council and the Grand Lodge of that State, who each denounced the usurpation and expelled all those engaged in it, if any there were. The Grand Orient denounced their illegality, and on the refusal of Mr. Foulhouse

expelled him from Freemasonry, erasing his name from the book of gold on the 4th of February, 1859. In the language of their bulletin, "the condemnation was complete."

Thus branded with marks of its fraud, falsehood, and profane origin, and denied fraternity with any of the symbolic or upper degrees of Freemasonry in the United States, the spurious Council fell into the disrepute due to perversity and ceased to be heard of in the family of Masons until the bulletins of 1868 brought the astounding information that the Grand Orient of France, in the autumn of that year, had recalled its condemnation and decreed the establishment of official and friendly relations with this spurious body.

These acts were done by the Grand Orient without notice to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana to the accredited representative of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite for the Southern jurisdiction of the United States, or to that Council itself, although its territories and powers were the subject of the proceeding. These powers entertained amical relations with the Grand Orient, and, therefore, besides graver grounds, the proceeding is open to the reproach of discourtesy.

The report of the reasons for the recognition sets up no pretense that the Grand Orient in 1858 had acted under any mistake, misconception, or error of fact. It is not pretended that any masonic authority in the United States had prior or subsequent to 1858 recognized this spurious body, nor that the decrees issued by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and by the Southern Supreme Council against such as had been Masons, had been subsequently revoked or suspended.

The decree therefore places the Grand Orient in an attitude of conflict with the existing authorities of Symbolic and of Scotch Masonry in Louisiana, where the principles that determine the right equally affect the masonic authorities in other States of this Union. The gravity of the position has induced your committee to give a careful examination to the character of the intruded body and to the legality of the action of the Grand Orient towards these high masonic powers in the United States. The report of M. Hermitte, 33°, to the Grand Orient, undoubtedly as the result of imperfect information, fails to state accurately the masonic relations of the two powers on whom it infringes. These errors we will point out.

The Grand Lodge of Louisiana does not derive its powers from the Supreme Council sitting at Charleston, nor from any other Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. The remarks of M. Hermitte concerning the antecedents historical of the Scottish Rite in Masonry do not affect the history or character of the Grand Lodge of any State in this Union, but tend to mislead those who so accept them. The Symbolic or York Masonry was already established and diffused over the States of this

Union when the first Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite were established in the United States. The bodies of the inferior degrees of that Rite which had long previously existed in these States were confined to speculative divisions, and the Councils when entering on their existence here, found no Scottish organization professing the authority to confer the first three degrees usually called Symbolic Masonry, but they did find that the Lodges of Perfection had always taken their initiates from the Master Masons made under the authority of the Grand Lodges of the York Rite. Actuated by the spirit of wisdom and the love of harmony, they forbore to attempt any change in this respect, and very soon in concordats with the masonic authorities of the York Rite of Symbolic Freemasonry, they actually renounced all pretense of authority over the dogma and the administration of the symbolic degrees in the York rite and all effort to establish these degrees under their own authority.

The separation of the Scottish Rite in the United States from Symbolic Freemasonry thus became complete, and harmony was established never since then interrupted. In the like manner, in process of time the Cryptic, Templar, and other Rites were eliminated from the Grand Lodges of the York Rite, and the exclusive authority over Symbolic Freemasonry both as to dogma, administration, and direction, was left to them absolute and entire by the general consent of the Freemasons of all rites in each State. In Louisiana this general consent of all rites to the exclusive authority of the Grand Lodge was perfected early, and, in 1855, absolute unanimity was secured. Thus all the rites known in the United States derive their initiates from those under obedience to the Grand Lodges and begin where its control ceases, the members of every rite remain as Freemasons always under the authority of the Grand Lodges where they reside, and a sentence of expulsion from the benefits of Freemasonry approved by the Grand Lodge destroys the entire status of the offenders and deprives the condemned of masonic intercourse in any rite in the United States. That the recognition by the Grand Orient of a pseudo body of the Scotch or any other rite claiming the power to form Lodges of and make initiations into the first three degrees of Freemasonry tends to introduce confusion into the harmonious system and innovations into the rituals of American Freemasonry must be apparent from this exposition of facts. It will also be seen that the deep concern of the Grand Lodges of these States on the subject arises from considerations apart from the legitimacy of the intruding body under Scottish Constitutions.

Your Committee are slow to believe that a high masonic power in relations of amity would intentionally forego equity and attempt to precipitate distraction on Freemasonry in the United States. In their opinion

the recognition of a power having undisputed boundaries at the time, includes its dogmatic exclusiveness within those limits, and consequently without evidence of subsequent masonic misconduct in the recognized, the Grand Orient could not with equity or justice reconsider her prior recognition of the dogmatic exclusiveness of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana over Symbolic Masonry in that State.

If the Freemasons of the States of this Union have the right to control their own institutions or self-government, it is clear under their masonic law that the pretended Supreme Council of Louisiana, even if it had legal existence in the Scottish Rite, would still be unable to masonically convey the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry to any person; and the fact cited with approval by M. Hermitte in his report that this body had attempted in 1867 or '68 to form a Lodge for Symbolic Freemasonry in Louisiana would compel the Grand Lodge there to expel all Freemasons connected therewith, and to refuse all fraternal association. This utter masonic incapacity of that body to interfere in Symbolic Freemasonry has not been brought to the notice of the Grand Orient by M. Hermitte.

There are other marked differences between the organization of Freemasonry here and in France useful to be considered in this connection. Whilst the Scotch, Templar, and Cryptic rites have national organizations in the United States, the Grand Lodges in the United States have never surrendered any authority to any central power, each State reserves its powers entire. When the interests of the rite require it they consult together as widely as the nature of the event requires and sometimes meet by delegates. Bound in strict fraternity, none of them would meditate any important change of policy without full conference with the others.

In France there are two national authorities over Symbolic Freemasonry. The Supreme Council of the A. A. S. Rite for France, claiming as part of its Rite, the first three degrees. The Grand Orient, which claims supreme authority over Symbolic Masonry under all Rites, York, Scotch, Egyptian and Misraim, French included, and exercises all these Rites in all their degrees. In this Babel of Rites it is only clear that the old York Rite is not an exclusive one in the Grand Orient's hands. Formerly the Grand Orient elected in masonic form their Grand Master in whom "the supreme executive, directive, and administrative power" resided. Thus freely elected was the Prince Lucian Murat, under whom the Grand Orient recognized the Southern Supreme Council of the A. A. S. R. as the only sovereign body of that Rite in Louisiana, and speeded the efforts of the Symbolic Masons of Louisiana to relieve themselves of the spurious invader by expelling the only French-made Scotch Mason who was known in the organization.

The Emperor of France, in the interest of his peculiar views of liberty, deprived the Grand Orient in 1862 of the power to elect a Grand Master and appointed Field Marshal Magnan to exercise those duties, since whose death, the General Mellinet, we believe, under the form of an election, has been permitted by the Emperor to exercise the office.

Your committee consider that the international relations of Grand Masonic bodies bear a close resemblance to those of independent nations.

To avoid natural political jealousy of an institution in any way dependent on foreign authority, Symbolic Freemasonry for a hundred and fifty years past has formed itself in each country when once firmly founded into an independent national organization, retaining only the general obligation to adhere to the ancient landmarks of the craft in those things essential to the Rite and the universality of its principles. Grand Lodges have been introduced into States to concentrate the authority of the resident fraternity, to preserve the landmarks, prevent innovation, and to secure for the resident fraternity within a prescribed territory the benefit of unity of government. In the cases of the Grand Lodges of Canada and of Nova Scotia, arising with some years' interval, this Grand Lodge refused recognition until satisfied that the petitioning body actually represented the substantial unity of the Freemasons of the Province. We still adhere to the principle. Unlike nations there can be no war between the Grand bodies of different States. A Grand Lodge is the exclusive power, because it represents all the Freemasons of the Rite in the territory, and as to foreign powers it is the resident masonic authority with whom masonic relations should be arranged. Hence, in our view, the recognition of a Grand Lodge admits the entire dogmatic and administrative authority of those resident Masons over the Rite in their territory. True it is that cases analogous to civil war arise among the lawful Freemasons as to the control of the Grand Lodge, which require the application of special principles. But this case is not of them; for the spurious body in Louisiana does not claim to hold its Freemasonry, although starting as late as 1858, either from the Grand Lodge of that State or from either of the Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite at that time recognized by the Grand Orient as the lawful possessors of the masonic power.

Your committee are satisfied that as the pretended Supreme Council of Louisiana has had no right over the three degrees of Symbolic Masonry, no person can be recognized as a Freemason in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge who derives his claims of initiation from that source. They are also satisfied that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana both before and since 1858 has had the exclusive authority *de jure* over Symbolic Masonry in that State, and that there exists no evidence to

show that she has exceeded her authority or varied from any landmark of the craft. Your committee are also satisfied that all the lawfully made Masons in that State have continued to adhere to her, and no Masonic authority in the Union has at any time recognized any intruder on her Symbolic authority.

Although the Grand Orient does not profess to invade Louisiana, or to have empowered this pretended Supreme Council of Louisiana, yet this committee think that her actions in withdrawing denunciations of ten years' standing against and replacing them by the recognition of a spurious body, although partly based on misapprehension of facts are inconsistent with her previous relations of amity to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and that the reasons assigned for her conduct depart from the masonic standard and fail as a justification.

This we will endeavor to point out. Here in the United States it is due to our happy organization of the Masonic Rites that we are free from divided authority over any Rite, and that perfect harmony exists between all of them. In France this division is greatly deplored by philosophical Masons, and the late Grand Master, M. Magnan, frequently made it the subject of his addresses to the Grand Orient. How can it be consistent with amity to any Masonic power in this Union for the Grand Orient to promote and encourage here that which she deplores at home? Fortunately the pretended Supreme Council of Louisiana is no institution of Freemasonry; destitute of even the color of an illegitimate descent, its pretensions are simply void. The instincts of self-preservation demand that we treat it as poison held to our lips, which, if permitted to enter them would cause the dissolution of the body. We adhere to those landmarks which ground the authority and community of Freemasonry on the legitimate succession to its privileges, and deplore that any respectable body should so fail in reverence as to assert that the efficiency of Freemasonry can be promoted by abandoning them. The report to the Grand Orient, while it admits the illegal origin of this pretended Scotch Body, invokes its recognition on political considerations, alleging that, notwithstanding their "complete condemnation" and expulsion in 1858, these conspirators against symbolic Freemasonry or their successors have, in the year 1867 or 1868, professed to charter a Lodge in Louisiana for "men of color." Can this further act of usurpation convert this counterfeit Council of Anti-Masons into a lawful and genuine masonic authority?

Your committee certainly recognize that a Freemason, lawfully made under competent authority, has an equal right to the privileges of Freemasonry whether he is of the Caucasian race or of any other race of men existing in the world. And, in connection with this proposition, they report that it is not pretended or assumed, either in the report to or the

decree of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana or her subordinates have wronged any brother of any race lawfully entitled to the benefits of Freemasonry.

Your committee hold it equally certain that no man of any race can, by his will, become a Mason and be entitled to the privileges of a Mason without the sanction of competent masonic authority, and without first passing through the ordeals prescribed by such authority and under its direction. The regulations for the conferring of Freemasonry, as stated in the report of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, are substantially the same as those in this jurisdiction, and in general use in the United States and Great Britain. That there has been no exception taken to the conduct of that Grand Lodge is clearly admitted by the report to the Grand Orient, which says that their view "has nothing hostile to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana."

In our view of the obligation of legitimate initiation into the craft, the persons whom this spurious Body seek to entrap would find it to their welfare to avoid the doors of a Body whose spurious origin and false pretensions are under a complete condemnation by the Masonic Fraternity of the United States; and the Grand Orient itself would have shown more concern for the pockets and the future character of the ostensible objects of its philanthropy had it foregone the effort to ignore the exclusive rights of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and to recommend to the outside world the steps of sitting-with expelled Masons, in a spurious body, fraudulently attempting to usurp the control and divide the unity of Symbolic Masonry as the true ways and means of admission among the lawful Freemasons of the United States.

Is the lawful authority of the Freemasons of Louisiana assembled in Grand Lodge over Symbolic Freemasonry to be set aside, and are expulsions from Freemasonry of ten years' standing to be disregarded, because the expelled, condemned, and spurious, have, in 1867, invited certain "men of color" not Freemasons to join their ranks? However much "men of color," who are not Masons, are entitled to the benefits of a broad general philanthropy, we cannot admit that there resides in them any masonic power to supersede the rule of Freemasons in Masonry. In this country, where Freemasons are not a political party, the theory of the Grand Orient in rendering Freemasonry subservient to political objects, is revolutionary of its landmarks; and if once admitted, would convert our Lodges into debating clubs where the advocates and opponents of any or all political, social, and religious change would be free to press their views and institute new masonic tests in their behalf. The decree of the Grand Master of the Grand Orient, dated Nov. 6, 1868, asserts that the Grand Orient "was among the first Masonic powers to become a propagandist," and

that he "is desirous of encouraging the said Supreme Council in the philanthropical course on which it has entered."

All this is very foreign to our ideas of the duties of Freemasonry. With us its teachings as an institution are esoteric, and our Lodges are not the apostles of any exoteric doctrines. According to our honored usages they cannot go out into the market-places in search of proselytes, nor scramble with the free citizens in the outside world in a race of propagandism.

Beyond this there is an implication in the excuses for this unmasonic act, incidentally thrust forward in the report and decree which is offensive to the Freemasons of America, inasmuch as it assumes that their masonic organization is subordinate to some higher authority which their Emperor has reposed in his General the Grand Master of the Grand Orient, who as *custos morum* and propagandist of imperial philanthropy interferes to regulate Freemasonry in the United States by vesting its control in a spurious Council of Louisiana recognized solely for the purpose of this investiture. We do recall that lately the sovereignty of the people of Mexico was taken from them and invested by him in a spurious Emperor as their supreme authority. We acknowledge his skill in the science of imperialism; but, as we are incredulous of belief that the authority of the Spirit of Light has transmigrated from the Freemasons of the jurisdiction of Louisiana into his person, we cannot take light from that source. The unhappy fate of that ill-starred attempt in Mexico points a political moral, not pertinent in institutions which, like Freemasonry, rest on moral influences alone for their existence and continuance.

The decree conveys no information whether this assumption over American Freemasonry was instigated by the policy of the Emperor or originates with M. Mellinet; — to have done so, might in the one case lessen the influence the Emperor might seek to establish, by conveying his policy through a mouth that dare not speak contrary to his desires.

Our suspicions that this attitude originates in political policy are enforced by various historical reminiscences connected with the fact that it repeals a decree made by the last Grand Master who was elected to the chair before the Emperor assumed its dogmatic and directive powers, in which the lofty regard borne by the Grand Orient to its obligations of amity, commanded the respect of the masonic world.

The Freemasons of France will not deem us unfraternal if we claim the same spirit of independence the Supreme Council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite for France manifested under its chief, the late M. Viennet, whom the Emperor's Grand Master of the Masonic Order, Marshal Magnan, had summoned in 1862 to submit to his politically imposed authority. That learned and venerable chief replied, "If the

Emperor thinks right to dissolve us, I shall submit without a protest; but as no power obliges us to be Masons in spite of ourselves, for my own part I shall withdraw myself from your domination." The consequence of this was that the Supreme Council in France still retains a self-governing masonic authority.

The Freemasons of the United States, animated by a like spirit, will repel a dictation made in disregard of their masonic right of self-government. Their Grand Lodges, the exclusive possessors of Symbolic Freemasonry in the several States, and responsible for its purity and prosperity, will protect their authority with dignity and energy. Their masonic brethren made at home shall be of the selection of the Freemasons themselves, and their intercourse with the masonic authorities of other nations shall be confined to those who, acting on the divine rule of doing to others as we would others shall do to us, will refrain from disturbing our internal organization and from fomenting political agitation in our calm asylums.

The position of American Freemasonry in relation to political questions may not be as well known in Europe as it is here. The Lodges of Freemasonry here have no connection with the party politics of the country, and claim no authority over the political views of their members. All parties and all religions known here are largely represented in our Lodges without any known predominance or distinction. By our masonic law neither politics nor creeds can be discussed in a Lodge, and consequently men of all ideas meet upon a common level around our altars, suppress for the time the fanaticism of their political and religious ideas, commune in fraternity and part in peace, well pleased that we enjoy one place and one phase of our lives where and when with our judgments unclouded by political asperities, we may recognize each other's virtues and merits and cultivate a fraternity of love whose enlightened creed acknowledges the individuality of every Mason's political and religious creed and respects his free exercise thereof.

"The Constitution of this Grand Lodge expressly provides, Part 5, Sect. 9,—It shall not be permitted to introduce political or other exciting topics for discussion in any Lodge under this jurisdiction." So thoroughly do we live up to the spirit of this injunction that your committee are not aware of an instance where political considerations have influenced an election of officers of a Lodge.

Our predecessors in Freemasonry, considering that the political governments of this country were organized on the principles of Jefferson, that error is not dangerous, so long as speech and reason are free to combat it, and also that a free organization, free speech and a free press through which to appeal to reason are permitted for every theory of philanthropy and progress, warned us to preserve Freemasonry

separate from politics in order that its usefulness should be exercised free from external dictation or animosity. Hence we have no alliance with any political party and we reject no man for his politics. Hence also we do not invade the exoteric or profane world to seek proselytes for our institution or to become propagandists of its creed.

Many of our older brethren often recall to us the only persecution our institution ever underwent in the United States. They then repelled accusations that its object was political influence based on similar charges made during the last century on European Freemasonry. When we succeeded after a long struggle in showing the falsehood of this charge as applied here, the conflict ceased and our institution gathered renewed vigor. We do not court another turmoil. In the United States general philanthropy is included in the domain of party politics and no masonic law prescribes how far a Freemason shall engage in it, or the side he shall take. Whatever our individual opinions may be on politics, we all agree that we cannot be too careful to preserve masonic institutions from becoming the theatre of contested political opinion. When acting as individuals in the political world we are not insensible to the claims of political philanthropy, although it concerns us not as Masons to speak of it, yet the public know that no brains or hearts in the country have shown according to their various lights and judgments more zeal for the progress of the moral, physical, religious, and intellectual well being of man.

Our French brethren ought not to regard it as a reproach to us that contrary to some of their theories, perhaps from our living under republican institutions, we all have considered that the proper place for politics is outside of the Lodge; and that the institution here should not be used for political or philanthropic propagandism among the profane. Masonic philanthropy, as we understand and practise it, is an obligation towards brother Masons, and this we sedulously practise. Freemasons in America learnt, in 1862, that the Emperor of France, either distrusting that the Masons, under obedience to the Grand Orient, mingled politics with Freemasonry, or having political purposes to effect, deprived those Masons of "the executive and directive" control of their Order, and appointed a Grand Master of his own, to whose authority they submitted. In conformity to our views of masonic reciprocity, we did not interfere as "apostles" of philanthropy or liberty to alter our relations of amity, or to disturb the peace of French organizations. Should not those now charged with the direction of the Grand Orient have extended to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana a like comity?

Your committee have only incidentally referred to the legal authorities of the Scotch Rite;—they have looked on this matter in its relations towards the Symbolic Freemasonry of the United States. This has

been intruded upon, and the Grand Orient offers open encouragement to those who disregard its landmarks, tendering its fellowship in their efforts to subvert masonic self-government in the United States. Such a violation of amity and masonic obligation is grave. Every masonic authority here will oppose a route on which the first step is to destroy the authority of our Grand Lodges, the next to ruin our harmony, and the last, like the Grand Orients, may be on the wreck of our own freedom. This Grand Lodge clings to ancient Masonry, and relying on the Supreme Architect of the Universe, will not fail to perform its duties of fraternity to those lawfully entitled thereto, and will sustain the Grand Lodge of Louisiana while she adheres to those principles of Symbolic Freemasonry which were first planted in America in the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and have since spread their kindly influences through the Continent.

Your Committee report as their conclusions —

1. That the pretended Supreme Council of Louisiana for the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite is a spurious non-masonic body; and that no person claiming to have been made a Mason through its authority has any right to fraternal privileges of Freemasonry.

2. That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has been wounded and injured in her just and lawful prerogatives and relations by the decree of the Grand Orient of France.

Your Committee further remark that if their conclusions are acceptable to the Grand Lodge, a Mason of this jurisdiction cannot sit in any Lodge of the Grand Orient's jurisdiction where any person claiming from the pretended Council of Louisiana is present. They have forbore to recommend at this time the absolute discontinuance of intercourse with the Grand Orient because perceiving that body to have been misled in some important particulars, they cherish the hope that she will magnanimously disclaim the hostility towards Blue Masonry in the United States which her attitude evinces, and reconsider the step which has provoked the just umbrage of the Masonic powers of the United States.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. LEVI WOODBURY.

CHAS. W. MOORE.

LUCIUS R. PAIGE.

The following report was received and accepted : —

The committee to whom was referred the communication from a committee of the Grand Lodge of New York having in

the remains of the late Grand Master, Allyn Weston, Colorado, have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully report, —

That from the letter received, your committee was informed of the intention of the New York committee to proceed with a body to Duxbury, the place for its final deposit, and to superintend the burial with masonic ceremonies; we declined it, therefore, uncalled for to add to that committee. Your committee, however, addressed a communication to the Secretary of the Lodge at Duxbury, asking the Lodge there to attend the final obsequies, and they promptly and faithfully performed their duty.

Since the return of the New York committee, they have informed us that every thing was done to the satisfaction of all concerned, and for the honor of our deceased brother.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM PARKMAN.

SOLOMON THORNTON.

JOHN MCCLELLAN.

June 8, 1869.

The following Lodges presented amendments to their By-Laws for approval, viz.: John Warren, Corinthian, Eliot, Fayette, and St. Mark's; and were, on motion, referred to W. Br. William D. Coolidge, W. Brothers George H. [unclear] and Ruel J. Walker.

The following petition was received, and referred to the Committee.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Massachusetts.

The undersigned, having worked under a dispensation for Faith [unclear], Charlestown, granted June 10, A.L. 5868, now return the [unclear], with the records of their acts, under its authority.

They also transmit the proper returns of the Lodge, and a copy of the By-Laws, for approval.

They respectfully ask that they may be constituted and chartered a regular Lodge, with the rights and privileges thereto appertaining.

WILLIAM H. KENT.	HENRY W. BRAGG.
JOHN B. NORTON.	JAMES W. POOR.
JAMES SWORDS.	DANIEL WILLIAMS.
FRANCIS W. PRAY.	JAMES ADAMS, JR.
CHAS. F. FAIRBANKS.	A. J. BAILEY.

The following invitation was received, and, on motion of R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, it was *Voted*, That the invitation be accepted, and that the Grand Lodge be represented by its officers.

NEWBURYPORT, May 14, 1869.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The Masonic Bodies of this city propose to celebrate the coming anniversary of St. John's Day, and have invited all the Lodges within this jurisdiction. And it is the sincere desire of the brethren of this city to receive the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge as their guests.

Hoping that we may be honored by your presence with us on that day, we remain respectfully and fraternally yours,

JAMES W. CHENEY,
Cor. Secretary.

JOHN N. PIKE,
Chairman Com.

A complaint from the Grand Lodge of California against Mount Hollis Lodge, was received, and referred to R.W. Br. Charles R. Train and W. Brothers J. Dillingham and W. H. Chessman.

The following report was received and accepted : —

The committee to whom was referred the address of the retiring Grand Master at the annual meeting, and the address of the Grand Master on his installation, have considered the matters presented therein, and beg leave to report :

In both addresses, reference is made to the importance of

making some different provision with regard to the Board of Directors ; and in order to carry out these suggestions, the committee propose an amendment to the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge.

As the M.W. Grand Master, at the last communication, called the attention of the Grand Lodge to several subjects in a more definite form, in a special address which has been referred to by another committee, it is not necessary to allude to any of them in this report.

The exhibition of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge, made in the two addresses referred to this committee, evince the importance of the strictest economy on the part of her officers, and of the assertion and enforcement of all the rights and privileges to which she is entitled. One of the primary objects which induced the Grand Lodge to accept, for the second time, a charter from the Legislature, was not only that she might have the right to hold real and personal estate (for that could be done, as heretofore, through the intervention of trustees), but that the real estate, which she held and occupied for her own purposes, might be exempt from taxation. The committee deem it proper to suggest to the Directors, that it will require very prompt action on their part to secure for the present year the very important benefit of this immunity to which the Grand Lodge, as a charitable corporation, is entitled under the general law.

The Past Grand Master refers in his retiring address to the extraordinary embarrassments under which he was called to preside in protecting the credit of the Grand Lodge in her financial straits, and to the painful necessity which compelled him to resort to his highest prerogative in enforcing her orders and decrees. When it is remembered that he was first installed after the cornerstone of this Temple was laid, and after the main design of the building was decided upon, and that he thus entered upon a field which his predecessors had strewn with the seeds of most perplexing difficulties, it must be unanimously conceded that he is entitled to the thanks of the Grand Lodge for the firmness, fidelity, and unremitting exertions with which he carried out her

great purpose, for the initiation of which he was in no degree officially responsible.

As to the paramount obligation resting upon the whole Fraternity of this jurisdiction, to come forward promptly and heartily, and relieve the Grand Lodge from her financial burden, there can be no question whatever. The Directors were ordered to erect this Temple when it was well known that, after the foundations were laid, the Grand Lodge had no funds with which to erect the superstructure. At that time the plans of the Temple were made public, and the magnitude of the undertaking could be comprehended. The Auncient Israelites, in their daily tasks under Pharaoh, when ordered to make bricks, demanded "Straw"; and the Directors of the Grand Lodge, when ordered to erect this Temple without money, simply required the credit of the Grand Lodge; and when *that* was counted in the money market as no better than the cheap material which satisfied the Israelites, the Directors were, fortunately, able to resort to the personal credit and private resources of prominent brethren, who *did* place reliance upon masonic faith and upon the assurances and votes of the Grand Lodge. Without their timely aid, this great undertaking—the successful consummation of which is now our great glory—would have ended in failure and disgrace. Their most valuable services will be gratefully remembered by the Fraternity so long as masonic rites shall be observed within these walls.

This Temple was projected upon the expectation, distinctly put forth in the addresses of former Grand Masters, communicated to all the subordinate Lodges, that the whole Fraternity would be called upon to provide what means would be required after the funds of the Grand Lodge were exhausted. Our Fraternity, now numbering twenty thousand, and constantly increasing, can readily shoulder the burden, without feeling it to bear upon them, and while the debt is annually diminishing, the building is increasing in value, and gives promise, at a day not far distant, of justifying the expectations of those who projected it.

The committee, in conclusion, propose for the consideration of

the Grand Lodge the adoption of the accompanying amendment to the Constitutions, which is designed to give greater permanency to the Board of Directors, while at the same time it extends the range from which a portion may be elected.

G. WASHINGTON WARREN.
CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY.
CHARLES W. MOORE.

Ordered, That so much of Sec. 2, Art. I, Part I, as relates to the constitution and election of the Board of Directors of the Corporation, be amended as follows :

The Board of Directors shall, after the present year, be constituted as follows, viz. — The Grand Master (and in his absence the Deputy Grand Master shall act and preside in his stead) and eight other members to be elected, four of whom shall be permanent members of the Grand Lodge, and four may be elected from the members of the subordinate Lodges in the jurisdiction, who, while they are Directors, shall be members of the Grand Lodge. At the next Annual Election, four Directors shall be elected to hold for one year, and four for two years, two of each class shall be permanent members ; and thereafter four Directors shall be elected annually in the same manner, to hold for two years. Vacancies may be filled at any regular communication of the Grand Lodge, and the persons elected shall serve during the residue of the term of their predecessors. The Board of Directors may choose their own Secretary.

On motion of R.W. Br. G. Washington Warren, the above proposed amendment to the Constitution was referred to R.W. Brothers G. Washington Warren, Charles C. Dame, Benjamin Dean, Charles R. Train, and Charles Levi Woodbury.

R.W. Br. John A. Goodwin, in behalf of the Committee appointed at the last Quarterly Communication to select a place in the Masonic Temple for the bust of R.W. Br.

William Sutton, made the following report, which was accepted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, June 9, 1869.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts :—

Your committee, appointed at the last quarterly communication to select a place in the Masonic Temple for the bust of our R.W. Br., William Sutton, have performed that duty, and herewith present their work for inspection, trusting that as it is viewed from the South, the West, and the East, and tried with the Plumb, the Level, and the Square, it will be found that the craftsmen have done their duty.

In commencing their labors, your committee found so many eligible localities that they had difficulty in agreeing upon the most desirable place ; but at length they were unanimous in the conclusion that Sutton Hall was the proper apartment to be adorned with the *effigies* of him whose name it bears. We further concluded that its place should be near the right of the oriental chair, so that, in turning towards that centre of authority, the brethren should forever behold among its supporters this counterfeit presentment, as they long have seen, and trust for many, *many* years still to see, the manly form and beaming countenance of the original.

The fact that your committee found several good positions for this beautiful sculpture, should be very suggestive to the Fraternity. We have in our circle many brothers whose store of corn, oil, and wine has been abundantly increased, and who are in the enjoyment of the legitimate reward of work well performed and obligations faithfully observed.

To such we commend the liberal example of R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, who has contributed this fine work of art for the double purpose of ornamenting our Temple and commemorating the masonic virtues of a distinguished brother. Our Grand Lodge, in its masonic affluence, has many on its rolls worthy of like honor. The well-known modesty of the donor in the present case, prevents us from naming one of the most prominent.

In all ages of civilization, respect and gratitude for eminent merit have found expression through painting and sculpture. Thus have been preserved not merely the form and features of the great and good, but also the example of their lives. Heroes, scholars, and philanthropists, whose very names would soon have passed from common recollection, have, through the portrait and statue, continued to teach successive generations, and have for centuries led the world to emulate their virtues.

We all vividly remember our former Temple on this site, swept away so recently by conflagration. In its Corinthian Hall, as we gazed on that long line of portraits, bringing us face to face with each of our Past Grand Masters, from Henry Price and Joseph Warren, down, how we felt the influence of their characters! We seemed to be sharing their labors and following their leadership. We forgot the passing generations, and remembered only the spirit of Masonry, that knows nothing of time and triumphs over the grave.

This was our *Valhalla*, and here our heroes lived and kindly looked down on us, who humbly toiled on our way toward that celestial degree which so many of them had attained. Since those faces have disappeared, the influences of the place have been weakened and the perpetuity of our Order less visibly felt.

May we not trust that private generosity will soon restore that long series of portraits, representing the links in our "apostolic succession," so that when we come up to our Temple, we may once more feel the magnetic presence of those worthy leaders who laid deep and strong the foundations of our Grand Lodge, who carefully guided it in the days of its early prosperity, and in the time of adversity remained true to their charge,— "faithful among the faithless found"?

This benefaction of R.W. Br. Lewis, in placing before us the life-like bust of one who in nearly all the subordinate positions of trust and labor has so long adorned Masonry,— whose presence has been so constant a pleasure to us, and whose munificence in

the decoration and equipment of this hall named in his honor, — is well calculated to stimulate others to like presentations.

May the craft who have learned so many noble lessons from Past Grand Master Lewis, mark well the instruction he now gives. Let the pencil and the chisel of the artist be liberally employed, and as the canvas glows and the marble warms into the semblance of life, our Temple shall become not only the Mecca to which we make our periodical pilgrimages from all sections of our commonwealth, but it shall also be the *Pantheon* of Masonry, where the features of those whom our Order loves to honor as its guardians and guides, shall become familiar to our eyes, while their bright masonic virtues are more and more deeply engraved on our hearts.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN A. GOODWIN.

G. WASHINGTON WARREN.

CHARLES W. MOORE.

The Committee on proceedings of Mt. Zion Lodge against J. Martin Gorham, made the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE, June 9, 1869.

The committee to whom was referred the record of the proceedings of Mount Zion Lodge, Barre, in the case of J. Martin Gorham, have attended to the duty assigned them and respectfully report, —

That the record in this case is as follows, viz. : “To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Mount Zion Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Whereas, J. Martin Gorham, a member of said Lodge, is charged with habitual intoxication, and greatly to the injury of the feelings of the Brethren, and in strict violation of the rules and regulations of the Fraternity, we respectfully ask that the matter be properly brought before the Lodge, and dealt with accordingly.

Barre, Dec. 27, 1868.”

To this recital the names of twelve persons are appended, together with the words “A true copy of the charge,

“Henry J. Shattuck, Sec. Mt. Zion Lodge.”

The record then proceeds as follows: "Barre, January 28, 1869. I this day served notice on J. Martin Gorham, by giving in hand an attested copy of the charge against him, and summoned him to appear and defend his case on February 10, 1869, seven o'clock, P.M.

"Barre, February 10, 1869.

At a special meeting of Mount Zion Lodge this day held, J. Martin Gorham was present, and pleaded guilty to the charge brought against him; and the ballot was passed, and the Lodge voted unanimously to suspend J. Martin Gorham indefinitely from the privileges of Masonry."

A true copy of the records of Mount Zion Lodge in said case.

Henry J. Shattuck, Secretary Mt. Zion Lodge."

As this is the entire record of the proceedings of the case, and is simply a transcript of the records of the Lodge, as certified to the Secretary, it must be taken as an exposition of *all* that was done by Mount Zion Lodge in regard to the respondent. If he had not appeared at the time assigned and pleaded guilty, as the record says, to the charge, it would have been impossible under the regulations of the Grand Lodge, and upon the principles which should govern masonic trials, to have sustained any part of the action of the Lodge in this case. This record, aiming, as it undoubtedly does, at brevity, omits many substantial facts and circumstances which, under other circumstances, might have been related to the rights and interests of the respondent—facts, the clearance and statement of which the Grand Regulations prescribe and require. That which should clearly and distinctly appear in this case is left to mere inference. In the first place, there is no charge distinctly made against the respondent, but only a recital that a charge is preferred, and from this recital *alone*, owing to its peculiar phraseology, it is perhaps doubtful whether injury to the feelings of the brethren and the violation of the rules and regulations of the Fraternity have occurred through the supposed guilt of the respondent, or by the act of some persons *solely* accusing *him* of the wrong. So that if the record ended

here, it would be difficult under the rules of grammatical construction to say whether the matter to be investigated was the wrongful act of J. Martin Gorham, or that of his accusers. The remaining portion of the record, however, enables us to dissolve this doubt, and to fix upon Gorham as the true object of accusation. There is, therefore, no charge, or this recital must be taken to be the *charge itself*, however defective. It was signed by twelve persons, who are not alleged to be members of Mount Zion Lodge, or Masons, or in any manner entitled to bring a charge against a member of that Lodge, or to have him cited for trial. Undoubtedly these persons *were* members, but the fact should have appeared by the record, and not have been left to inference. It would have been just as easy to have made the accusation in writing, as the Grand Regulations provide, and to have said distinctly that it was preferred by a member of the Lodge, and that the Secretary to whom it had been given in charge by the Master had served the respondent with the proper notice, of which a copy should have been appended, and that a meeting of the Lodge was specially notified and convened for the examination of the charge. In all such cases, it should appear clearly by the record that every thing has been done which the regulations of the Grand Lodge prescribe. And your committee deem it their duty to call the attention of all the Lodges to whom the disagreeable responsibility of trying a member shall hereafter come, to the necessity as well as the obvious propriety of strict conformity to the regulations of the Grand Lodge, not only in the conduct of the proceedings before and at the trial, but in the preparation of the record in the case. This is the clear right of the respondent, and the least which any Lodge can do is to give him the benefit of the regulations which have been established to direct the trial. In the spirit of a large and comprehensive charity, the Lodge may sometimes do much *more* than this. In case any Lodge shall hereafter be in doubt as to the accuracy of their record of a masonic trial, it might be wise to transmit their papers to the Deputy Grand Master, whose skill and ability are admirably adapted to

the proper supervision of such record, or, in his absence, to the Deputy of the District.

But notwithstanding the obvious defects in the record of this case, there is one consideration upon which its final disposition by this Grand Lodge should be determined. The Grand Regulations, so far as they relate to the right and interest of the respondent, and are for his benefit, may be waived by him. If we are to consider that a proper charge has been made in the present instance, all defects such as we have noted may be cured by his appearance and answer to the merits. Here the respondent *did* appear and pleaded guilty, without any objections to any of the preliminary proceedings, and is therefore not now entitled to maintain such objections, or to have them interposed in his behalf. In the hope that the observations herein submitted may lead to greater care and caution on the part of the Lodges in such proceedings, your committee recommend that the *sentence* of Mount Zion Lodge in the case of J. Martin Gorham be confirmed.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

GEORGE H. PEIRSON.

On motion, the report of the Committee was accepted, and the sentence of the Lodge approved.

The Committee appointed to examine and report upon the proceedings of Acacia Lodge in case of Br. Thomas Raymond, made the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE, June 9, 1869.

The committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Acacia Lodge, Gloucester, in the trial of Brother Thomas Raymond, a member of said Lodge, have examined the record as made up by the Secretary, and respectfully report, —

That a general charge of wronging and defrauding the Lodge, accompanied with proper specifications, was the foundation of the proceedings against the respondent in this case. The evidence disclosed a misappropriation of moneys of the Lodge intrusted to

him. All the proceedings preliminary to and at the trial conform with the regulations of the Grand Lodge. The members present voted guilty, and the respondent was sentenced to suspension from the rights and privileges of Master for a period of one year. The record is carefully and accurately kept, and your committee recommend that the proceedings be confirmed.

TRACY P. H.

GEORGE F. H.

On motion, it was *Voted*, That the report be confirmed, and the proceedings confirmed.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address delivered the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE, J.

The committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand Master, delivered before the Grand Lodge on March last, have carefully examined the same and report, —

That the subject matters contained therein appear of great importance, demanding the careful consideration of the Grand Lodge. The facts contained in the Address give us an insight into the real condition and working of the Grand Lodge than we have had for a long time, while it also points out to several things that seem to need correcting. The presentation of these statements and facts must be altogether pleasant, because it might *seem* to imply more censure on former administrations, and therefore it is more creditable to the M.W. Grand Master that he has so candidly called attention to the subject, and the thanks of the Fraternity are due him for the fidelity and earnestness with which he has endeavored to correct whatever may be wrong. We are sure his motives are pure and correct, and that whatever of *seeming* censure might appear to be in it is not so in fact, and should be considered.

Any error, if such there be, any encroachments on

anges not for the best, have crept in gradually and imperceptably, doubtless without wrong intent on the part of any, — many of them perhaps from the force of circumstances, and the necessities of the case, it may be. But the occasion for them is now past, and it is well that attention is called to them, and that we stop and consider well our condition, cast about and take anew our reckonings, and with new precautions and safeguards, if need be, start afresh.

The Address shows, upon the part of M.W. Grand Master, an earnest determination to place before the Fraternity of the State, through the investigation of committees, a more intimate knowledge of the workings of the corporation, the conditions of funds, receipts and expenditures, cost of Temple, furnishing, property, etc. ; correct any wrongs that may have crept in, guard interests, protect its records, etc. We cannot doubt that this will have a favorable effect on the Fraternity throughout the State, and tend to restore confidence in the management of the affairs of the Grand Lodge, assuring them, as it will, of a desire to give them the fullest information with regard thereto ; and also, by showing them the true state of things, lead them to take hold with alacrity and relieve it from all embarrassment that it may be laboring under. That such may be the case is most earnestly to be desired.

With regard to the recommendations made in the Address, your committee most heartily approve them, and would advise that they be adopted, and that the various subjects therein contained, under the following heads, be referred, as suggested, to committees, to be disposed of as follows : —

- 1st. "*The Records of the Grand Lodge*" be referred to a committee of three, who also be instructed to report an amendment to the Constitutions as therein proposed. And as your committee are instructed to nominate the committees herein proposed, we would nominate for this committee — W. F. Salmon, Lowell ; A. A. Dame, Boston ; J. M. Porter, Springfield.
- 2d. "*The Grand Charity Fund*" to a committee of three, and

would nominate for this committee — John T. Heard, Boston ; W. T. Davis, Greenfield ; J. H. Temple, Framingham.

3d. "*The Sinking Fund*" to a committee of three, for which we name — Gideon Haynes, Charlestown ; James H. Bouvé, Cohasset ; Moses G. Lyon, Fitchburg.

4th. "*The Masonic Temple*" to a committee of five, with power to employ such clerical assistance as may be necessary. We would nominate for this committee — Hocum Hosford, Lowell ; D. W. Lawrence, Medford ; Charles E. Powers, Boston ; L. H. Gamwell, Pittsfield ; Nathan S. Kimball, Haverhill.

5th. "*Charters.*" Upon the subject of obtaining and preserving copies of Charters, your committee approve of the recommendation of the M.W. Grand Master, and would recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to procure printed blanks, and send to each Lodge, with instructions to the Secretaries thereof to fill up, without delay, so as to make it a copy of their Charter, and return to him, and that they be carefully preserved by the Grand Secretary, who also be instructed to keep and reserve copies of all future Charters issued.

6th. "*The Commutation Tax.*" The importance of the prompt payment of this is well set forth in the Address of the M.W. Grand Master, and we most earnestly commend this part of it to the considerate attention of every Mason in Massachusetts ; and we would reiterate his earnest appeal therein — "Will the brethren, now that they are acquainted with all the pressing necessities of the Board of Directors, join heart and hand in supporting those whom they have chosen to act for them, and help sustain the burdens."

7th. "*Bookkeeping.*" Your committee think the importance of keeping separate accounts with the different funds and departments of the corporation, so that the amount received and expended for each, and their exact condition, may be known at any time, will be apparent to all ; and they heartily approve of the plan now adopted of keeping impersonal accounts. Whether those opened will prove to be all and just what is desirable, time

and experience will show. If not, they can be easily increased or changed.

8th. "*Board of Directors*," encroachments of the. Your committee would recommend that a committee of three be appointed, to whom this part of the Address be referred, and who shall examine into the powers of the Board under the act of incorporation and under the present Constitutions, and recommend such changes in the Constitutions as may be necessary, if any, to restrict their powers within proper limits, and reserve to the Grand Lodge, with a jealous care, such as properly belongs to it, or as the individual rights of members of the Fraternity would dictate.

We would nominate for this committee— Benjamin Dean, Boston ; George Marston, Barnstable ; E. P. Woodard, Worcester.

Respectfully submitted.

HENRY CHICKERING.

N. T. MERRITT.

F. H. SPRAGUE.

CHARLES H. NORRIS.

On motion of R.W. Br. John McClellan, it was *Voted*, That the report of the committee be accepted, and that their recommendations be adopted.

R.W. Br. John T. Heard, in behalf of the committee on the petition of Lewis Hayden and others, reported progress and requested further time, which was granted.

Past Grand Master Winslow Lewis offered the following, which was adopted unanimously, all rising :—

That this Grand Lodge sends its fraternal remembrance to the venerable brother, the R.W. Thomas Tolman, in this the closing period of his long and useful labors in behalf of the Order, with the assurance that his memory will be ever cherished by his brethren, and their prayers will be that his last end may be peace.

A petition was received, signed by the following brethren, residing at Weymouth, and working under dispensation from the M.W. Grand Master, for the purpose of praying to be constituted into a regular Lodge, to-wit: Ward Avery, N. F. T. Hunt, E. Watson Arnold, White, Charles G. Thompson, Alverdo Mason, Erastus Nash, Elbridge T. Richards, Reuben Tirrill, Wallace, Richard A. Hunt, E. Atherton Hunt, Ambler, Ebenezer W. Hunt, E. P. Worster, T. Erastus Nash, M. H. Reed, George W. Warren, Walsh, F. F. Forsaith, George A. Gustin, Williams, Waterman T. Burrill, S. W. Pratt, Charles Brooks, F. A. Hobert, Asa French, Edward S. George W. White, Jr.

This petition was referred to R.W. Br. V. Coolidge and W. Brothers George H. Stevens, and Walker.

The committee to whom was referred the amended By-Laws, made the following report, which was

IN GRAND LODGE,

The committee to whom was referred the amended By-Laws of John Warren, Eliot, Corinthian, Lafayette, and Mark's Lodges, have considered the same, and find them in conformity to the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge, and that they be approved.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE

For the

The committee on the application for a charter of a Lodge, at Charlestown, also from Delta Lodge, Weymouth, made the following reports:—

IN GRAND LODGE, June 9, 1869.

the committee on the application for a charter from Faith
ge, of Charlestown have examined the Records and By-Laws
mitted, and find the Records correct and in accordance with
Constitutions of the M.W. Grand Lodge.

the committee find several alterations necessary in the By-
s which have been submitted, which they have suggested, and
d report that when these are made to the satisfaction of the
F. Grand Master, that a charter be issued to them.

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

GEORGE H. STEVENS.

R. J. WALKER.

IN GRAND LODGE, June 9, 1869.

the committee on the application of Delta Lodge, of Wey-
h, have examined the Records and By-Laws submitted to
, and find them in accordance with the Constitutions of the
F. Grand Lodge, and recommend that a charter be issued to

WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE.

GEORGE H. STEVENS.

R. J. WALKER.

n motion, it was *Voted*, That the reports be accepted
that charters be issued accordingly.

the M.W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION.

SEPTEMBER 8, A.L. 5869.

A QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Masonic Temple, on Wednesday, September 8, 1869.

PRESENT.

M.W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER . . .	Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY . . .	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. IVORY H. POPE	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
W. A. F. CHAPMAN	Recording Grand Sec. <i>pro tem</i> .
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Cor. Grand Secretary.
R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH	D.D.G.Master, District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER	" " District No. 2.
R.W. BENJAMIN POPE	" " District No. 3.
R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP	" " District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	" " District No. 5.
R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS	" " District No. 7.
R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK	" " District No. 8.
R.W. DANIEL UPTON	" " District No. 9.
R.W. CHARLES G. REED	" " District No. 11.
R.W. GEORGE E. STACY	" " District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT	" " District No. 13.
R.W. JOHN A. LEE	" " District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr.	" " District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	" " District No. 16.
W. Rev. JAMES A. BOLLES, D.D., }	Grand Chaplains. .
W. Rev. CHARLES H. TITUS, }	
W. WILLIAM T. GRAMMER	Grand Marshal.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JAMES B. PICKETT, Newton	Grand Steward.
W. SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE, Medford . .	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Standard-Bearer.
W. CHARLES KIMBALL	Grand Pursuivant.
W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, Auburndale . . .	Grand Lecturer.
Br. HOWARD M. DOW, Boston	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

V. WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	Past Grand Master.
V. JOHN T. HEARD	" " "
V. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
V. CHARLES C. DAME	" " "
V. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
V. CHALES R. TRAIN	" " " "
V. HENRY CHICKERING	Past Grand Warden.
V. WILLIAM SUTTON	" " "
V. WILLIAM F. SALMON	" " "
V. JOHN H. SHEPPARD.	" " "

LODGES REPRESENTED.

ERDOUR.	JOSEPH WARREN.	PENTUCKET.
ELPHI.	KONOHASSETT.	PILGRIM.
ACIA.	KING SOLOMONS.	PLYMOUTH.
MONT.	LIBERTY.	QUINNEBAUG.
DE HILL.	MOUNT TABOR.	REVERE.
COPEE.	MOUNT CARMEL.	ROSWELL LEE.
HOUSIE.	MOUNT HERMON.	ST. ANDREW'S.
RIC.	MIDDLESEX.	ST. PAUL'S.
SIS.	MOUNT OLIVET.	SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.
EX.	MONITOR.	STAR IN THE EAST.
KKA.	MERRIMAC.	SOCIAL HARMONY.
TERNAL.	MONTACUTE.	TUSCAN.
LOWSHIP.	MONTGOMERY.	WINSLOW LEWIS.
MATT.	MIZPAH.	WILLIAM PARKMAN.
FE.	NORFOLK UNION.	ZETLAND.
MPDEN.	OLIVE BRANCH.	ANCIENT LANDMARK.
DE PARK.	ORPHANS' HOPE.	PAUL DEAN.
IC.	PEQUOSSETTE.	TYRIAN.
AC PARKER.	KING DAVID.	

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at 2 o'clock, M., with prayer by the Senior Grand Chaplain, W. Rev. James A. Bolles, D.D.

The Grand Secretary being absent from the State, on motion of R.W. Br. Charles R. Train, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the choice of a Grand Secretary *pro tem*.

The result of the ballot was the election of W. Br. Alfred Chapman, who was sworn into office.

R. W. Br. Charles W. Moore, in behalf of the committee to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master, made the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 8, 1869.

The committee, to whom was referred the address of the M. W. Grand Master at the quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge in June last, respectfully report —

That the only matter contained in the address which seemed to demand the attention of your committee, or the action of the Grand Lodge, is that which relates to what may, perhaps, not inappropriately be called our FOREIGN LODGES, or those Lodges in foreign countries that have been created and exist by authority of this Grand Lodge. The number of them is limited, and it will be most convenient to refer to them in their order : —

1. BETHESDA LODGE, AT VALPARAISO, CHILI, SOUTH AMERICA was established by Dispensation in 1853, and chartered in 1854. It is a well ordered and prosperous Lodge, with nominally about one hundred members. Its returns and dues to the close of the past year are in the hands of the Deputy for the District, and will be forwarded at the earliest opportunity. In the meantime, the Deputy asks for instruction on the question whether the Grand Lodge expects and will insist on the payment of the capitation-tax by this and the other foreign Lodges under its jurisdiction?

The Brethren at Valparaiso urge that their distance from the seat of the government of the Grand Lodge, and their comparatively isolated condition, should exonerate them from this payment. Your committee, in view of these suggestions, and the further consideration that the maintenance of Lodges in foreign countries, where the field of labor is limited, is necessarily attended with expenses which are not demanded of Lodges in the immediate vicinity of the Grand Lodge, recommend that all the Lodges so situated be excused from the payment of all special taxes.

2. **STAR OF THE SOUTH LODGE, CONCEPTION.** — In 1856, a Dispensation was granted for a Lodge at Conception, in Chili, under the name of "Star of the South Lodge"; but in 1858 a majority of the petitioners having satisfied themselves that it was not possible to maintain a new Lodge at that place, the undertaking was abandoned, and the Dispensation returned.

The above includes all the Lodges that have ever been authorized or established in the Republic of Chili by this Grand Lodge. Those at present in existence, and whose names are borne upon our roll, are — Bethesda, at Valparaiso, and Hiram, at Copiapo. A petition is, however, in the hands of your committee for a new Lodge at the former place, to which they will hereafter have occasion to refer.

8. **HIRAM LODGE, COPIAPO.** — In December, 1857, Grand Master Heard granted a Dispensation to Joseph T. Brower, and six other Brethren, for a Lodge at Copiapo, in the Republic of Chili, to be known as "Hiram Lodge." It was soon after regularly organized, and the R.W. Brother Dr. John Flint was appointed its proxy in this Grand Lodge; but your committee regret to say it has never realized the expectations of its founders or the hopes of its friends. Its present condition and hopes of future improvement are briefly stated by the R.W. George H. Kendall, Deputy for the District, in a note to the chairman of your committee, dated at Valparaiso, April 15, 1869, in the following words: "Hiram Lodge of Copiapo has come to a stand-still, not having done any work for a long time, it being impossible for the members to meet in sufficient numbers. They are about to petition for the removal of the Lodge to Caldera, the port Copiapo, where a number of Masons reside, and where its existence would be beneficial to them as well as to sojourners."

This petition having been received, your committee recommend that the Grand Master authorize its removal from Copiapo to Caldera, if he shall deem such removal useful and expedient.

4. **SOUTHERN CROSS LODGE, VALPARAISO.** — In 1858 another

Dispensation was granted by Grand Master Heard for a third Lodge in Chili, to be held at Valparaiso, under the name of the "Southern Cross Lodge." It was regularly organized, and in the following year made its returns and paid its dues, together with the fee for a Charter, which was forthwith forwarded to the petitioners; but it is believed that the Lodge was never organized under it. All the papers relating to the case were destroyed at the burning of the Temple in 1855; but the chairman of your committee is under the impression that the Charter was lost at sea, in its transmission, and that the petitioners soon after abandoned the enterprise and connected themselves with Bethesda Lodge. Your committee, not receiving the papers referred to them in sufficient season to do so personally, recommended that the Grand Secretary be directed to communicate with the Deputy for Chili on the subject.

5. J. L. HUTCHINSON LODGE, ARICA, PERU. — In December, 1866, Grand Master Dame announced in his annual address before the Grand Lodge, that on the 21st of the preceding February he granted a Dispensation to Br. John Thomas Lansing, the American Consul, and nineteen other Brethren, to form a Lodge at Arica, in the Republic of Peru, under the name of "J. L. Hutchinson Lodge," and had appointed the R.W. Br. Richard Hartley (Sec. Sup. Council 33d, of Peru), of Lima, District Deputy Grand Master for that State. No returns have been received from this Lodge, nor are your committee in possession of any information as to its past history or present condition, if indeed it be now in existence. But as the town in which it was located was utterly destroyed by the earthquake which made such frightful havoc on the coast of Peru in 1868, it may not be unreasonable to infer that the Lodge was swept away by the same terrible calamity. Your committee, however, recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to communicate with the Deputy of the District on the subject.

6. ISTHMUS LODGE, PANAMA. — In March, 1866, Grand Master Dame also granted a Dispensation for a Lodge at Panama, in

the Republic of New Granada, by the name of "Isthmus Lodge," and appointed for its Worshipful Master Brother William Little, a native of Boston, and the American Consul at that place; but in consequence of his death soon after, and the establishment of a Grand Lodge for the Republic, the Lodge, by agreement of the parties, and with the consent of the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, surrendered its Dispensation and took out a Charter from the local Grand Body, on the condition that it should be allowed to work in the *York* Rite, in which it was originally instituted, instead of the *Scotch* Rite, practised by the native Grand Lodge. It is not known that it ever did any work under its Dispensation. Its organization and subsequent supervision were, however, intrusted to the Deputy of Peru, and if it has ever made returns of its transactions to anybody, they were probably made to him. If so, the fact can be ascertained by the Grand Secretary in the correspondence which he is directed by this report to open with that officer.

7. ANCIENT LANDMARK LODGE, SHANGHAE, CHINA. — In December, 1863, a Dispensation was granted to Charles E. Hill, and others, for a Lodge at Shanghai, in China, under the name of "Ancient Landmark Lodge," for which a Charter was issued in March, 1865. The Lodge was originally composed almost entirely of Americans, residing and doing business at the place of its location. They were Brethren of the highest respectability; and your committee are gratified in being able to add that the Lodge has continued to maintain a character for intelligence and propriety of deportment, alike honorable to itself and to this Grand Lodge.

In 1801, this Grand Lodge granted a Dispensation or Charter for a Lodge to be held in the old town of Stabroek, in British Guiana, the name of which continued upon its Roll until about 1834, when, nothing having been heard of it for many years, it was dropped.

In 1805, a Charter was granted for Scioto Lodge, to be holden at Chillicothe, in Ohio, which, on the organization of the Grand

Lodge of the State, was transferred to that Body, where it still remains, ranking No. 6 on its Roll.

In 1821, authority was given by the Grand Lodge for a French Lodge at Mayaguez, at Porto Rico. And this is all we know about it. Like its sister at Stabroek, it died, and "made no sign."

The foregoing comprise all the Lodges which, during the present century, have been authorized by this Grand Lodge, beyond its own immediate and exclusive jurisdiction, except the issuing of a Dispensation to Robert F. Parker, a native of Boston, and others, for a Lodge at San Francisco, in California, in the year 1848. And it may not hereafter be an uninteresting historical fact that this was the first authority ever issued by a Grand Lodge for the opening and working of a Lodge of Freemasons in that then comparatively uncivilized and unknown, but now populous, enterprising, and wealthy State. The petitioners did not ask for a Charter, the unsettled and constantly changing character of the early inhabitants of the city rendering the permanent organization of the Lodge inexpedient, if not wholly impracticable. The Dispensation was returned to the Grand Lodge.

THE ORGANIZATION OF A GRAND LODGE IN CHILI. — Subsequent to the establishment of Bethesda Lodge, a Body was organized at Valparaiso, under the name, and with the assumed powers, of a Grand Lodge for that Republic. And it has continued in the uninterrupted exercise of those powers to the present time. Its legality has, however, been questioned; but the objections to it have not, so far as your committee are informed, met with favor in any responsible source. There were undoubtedly some informalities in the manner of its organization; but this Grand Lodge, in 1862, did not regard them as of sufficient importance to restrain it in authorizing its Deputy for the District and the members of Bethesda Lodge, to accede to its invitation to exchange masonic civilities with it and its constituent Lodges, until otherwise ordered, or until some more satisfactory evidence of its irregularity should appear. No such evidence has appeared, and

the amicable relations which have, for the last seven years, existed between it and the Brethren of our own Lodges in the Republic, remain undisturbed. Your committee do not know of any reason why they should not continue. The Body was formed as a Grand Lodge of the *Scottish Rite*, and has not, nor does it claim to exercise any authority or control over the *York Rite*, or its Lodges. It recognizes the latter Rite as a co-ordinate independent branch of Freemasonry, and has never, it is believed, manifested any disposition to interfere with the exercise of its powers as such within the limits of the Chilian Republic. More than this cannot be required. More it cannot in honor concede.

THE SCOTTISH RITE LAW OF JURISDICTION.—The law of Jurisdiction as here indicated, and as accepted by the Grand Lodge of Chili, is in literal agreement with the celebrated Declaration of the Powers of the Scottish Rite, promulgated by a Congress of the authorities of the Rite, held at Paris in 1834.

The Convention or Congress was composed of many of the most distinguished and eminent members of the Rite, representing the Supreme Council of South America, and of several of the European States; among them was General Lafayette. It was a Body of *positive powers*, and enunciated, with authority, as the basis of the organic law of the Rite of Masonry it represented, the important principle that “*Different Rites* naturally produce *different powers* which govern them,” and, as a logical and necessary consequence, that “each Rite is *independent* of all the others.” And again, that “the action of the power of a Rite, whether dogmatic or administrative, cannot legally extend except to the Masons of *that Rite, obedient to the jurisdiction of that power.*”

There is no mistaking the legal force and intent of these important edicts. They constitute the law, and clearly define and limit the jurisdiction of the Scotch Rite, while they recognize in the York Rite equal and co-ordinate privileges wherever the former is itself in authority. It is by the force of this Law of Jurisdiction that in Europe Grand Lodges of different Rites are found occupying the same political division or State, as in Prussia and

France. It is by virtue of this Law also that the Grand Lodge of England maintains its subordinate Lodges in Switzerland, in the Argentine Republic, and in Venezuela. And it is by the authority of this same Law that we have established and hold our own Lodges in the South American Republics, where the York Rite would not otherwise be known.*

A different rule apparently obtains in the United States; and there would, at first view, seem to be a want of reciprocity or equality in our system of masonic government; but it is only in appearance. In reality, there is no substantive difference in the practical working of the law as between us and our foreign Brethren. We in America have both these great leading Rites permanently established among us, and recognize no others. *The country is therefore masonically occupied.* And as any attempt by a foreign power to place a Lodge of the York Rite within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges of Great Britain, or a Lodge of the Scotch Rite within that of the Supreme Council of France, would be resisted by both as a violation of the law of jurisdiction, so any attempt by such a power to establish Lodges of either Rite in this country would meet the indignant opposition of the party whose jurisdiction should be invaded. That the Scotch Rite with us does not, as elsewhere, assume to exercise any control over, or to interfere with, the prerogatives of the symbolic Lodge, or the degrees usually recognized as comprising the York Rite, does not affect the independent relations or prerogatives of either Rite, in other respects. The difference is one of mutual agreement, and entirely local in its effect.†

* The Freemasonry of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite is almost the only Freemasonry known in all the South American Republics, in Spain and Italy; and it and the French Rites or *Rit Moderne*, in France, Portugal and Belgium. In all these countries its authorities confer the three first degrees and create Blue Lodges.

There are Supreme Councils in those European States, in England, Scotland, and Ireland, in Brazil, the Argentine Confederation, Uruguay, Peru, Venezuela, New Grenada, and the West Indies. — *Balustre Sup. Council So. Juris., U. S. M., June, 1869.*

† Everywhere else in the world, except in the British Isles, the Supreme

PETITION FOR A NEW LODGE AT VALPARAISO. — In view of the foregoing facts and considerations, your committee are clearly of the opinion that whatever may be the legal *status* of the Body known as the Grand Lodge of Chili, there is no lawful objection to this Grand Lodge placing another Lodge at Valparaiso, if such a step shall be found to be for the interest of masonry. The petition for such a Lodge, which accompanied the papers referred to your committee, is signed by fourteen Brethren residing at Valparaiso, most of whom were initiated in American Lodges, and speak the English language. It is also endorsed by the Deputy of the District, and recommended in the usual form by Bethesda Lodge. It is thought by the Deputy, and by many of the Brethren at Valparaiso, that the establishment of a second York Lodge there would create a new interest, and quicken energies that are now sluggish and inactive. Without assuming to decide this point, your committee recommend that the subject be referred to the Grand Master, to be disposed of by him as in his judgment may be best for the interest of all parties concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. W. MOORE.

C. H. TITUS.

BAALIS SANFORD, JR.

On motion, the report of the committee was accepted, and their recommendations adopted.

Councils administer the symbolic degrees and create Blue Lodges, as they always have done, and as the Rite of Perfection always did; and Masons made under their authority are recognized as legitimate by the whole masonic world. There are fifty such Lodges in France, created by the Supreme Council of France, and recognized as legitimate by the Grand Orient of France, one of the greatest Masonic Powers in the World.* The Supreme Council of the United States conceded to the Grand Lodges the exclusive control over the Blue degrees, at its origin in 1801, and has never violated the agreement it then made; but it does not admit that the Grand Lodges could have deprived it of any of its powers, exercised by the governing bodies and the Inspectors-General of the Scottish Masonry from the year 1768. — *Sup. Council So. Jur. U. S.*

* [The Grand Orient works a modified or mixed Rite, which it calls the French or Modern Rite, embodying the essentials of both the Scotch and York Rites.]

The committee to whom was referred the amendment to the Constitutions offered at the last Communication made the following report : —

The committee of the Grand Lodge, to whom was referred the amendment proposed to the Constitutions, at their last communication, have considered the same and beg leave to report that the amendment be adopted substantially as proposed. They accordingly report that the amendment be adopted in the following form, namely : —

“The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Grand Master and eight other members, of whom four, at least, shall be permanent members of the Grand Lodge, and four may be chosen from the members of subordinate Lodges in the Commonwealth, who shall, while they are Directors, be members of the Grand Lodge. At the annual election in December, 1869, four Directors, two of each class, shall be chosen for one year, and four, two of each class, for two years. At each annual meeting thereafter, four Directors, two of each class, shall be chosen for two years. Vacancies may be filled at any stated meeting of the Grand Lodge, for an unexpired term, the Director so chosen to be of the class vacated.

“The Board of Directors may appoint its own clerk, who shall be clerk of the Corporation, who shall remain in office until his successor is elected and qualified.

“The Grand Master shall be President of the Board, and in his absence the Deputy Grand Master shall act and preside in his place.

“New members of the Board shall enter upon their duties after the annual installation of the Grand Master.”

All which is respectfully submitted.

G. WASHINGTON WARREN.

CHARLES C. DAME.

BENJAMIN DEAN.

CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY.

CHARLES R. TRAIN.

On motion, the report of the committee was accepted, and the amendment adopted by a vote of one hundred in favor of, to two against it.

The decease of R.W. Br. Thomas Tolman, a Past Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, was announced by the M.W. Grand Master, who referred the matter to R.W. Brothers John H. Sheppard, Winslow Lewis and Charles W. Moore.

A complaint was made by Br. J. W. Denney against Adelpi Lodge, South Boston, for conferring the Degrees on W. W. Hebbard, a supposed resident of the State of Maine, and referred to R.W. Br. Benj. Dean and Worshipful Brothers John Kneeland and F. G. Walbridge.

The following letter was read : —

M.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Esq., Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, —

You will please to hand the within Bond for one hundred dollars to our worthy Grand Treasurer as a gift to the Grand Lodge towards cancelling the debt to that amount on our noble Temple.

Yours fraternally,

LOVELL BICKNELL.

On motion of R.W. Br. William D. Coolidge, it was *Voted*, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be given to Br. Bicknell for his valuable gift.

The following Lodges presented amendments to their By-Laws for approval, viz., — Quinebaug, Chicopee, Mount Olivet, Isaac Parker, Fellowship, and Ancient Landmark. The M.W. Grand Master appointed R.W. Br. W. F. Salmon and W. Brothers James Utley and J. W. Jordon a committee to examine the same.

A Commission was presented from the Grand Lodge of

Missouri, appointing W. Br. John K. Hall its representative near this Grand Lodge. This was referred to R.W. Brother C. C. Dame, W. Br. John A. Goodwin, and W. Br. C. F. Gerry.

R. W. Br. John H. Sheppard, in behalf of the committee to whom was referred the decease of R.W. Thomas Tolman, made the following report, which was adopted :—

The committee to whom was referred the death of the R.W. Thomas Tolman, member of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, respectfully beg leave to report : —

The Hon. Thomas Tolman was born at Stoughton, Massachusetts, February 20, 1791, and died in Boston June 29, 1869, aged 70 years, 4 months. He was a lineal descendant in the sixth generation of Thomas Tolman ; who, born in England 1608-9, came to this country with the early settlers of Dorchester, and his name is appended to the Church Covenant of 1636, and also recorded as a Freeman May 13, 1640. The estate he acquired in Stoughton is nearly all in the possession of one of his descendants.

He took his degree at Brown University in 1811, where, at commencement, he delivered a " Poem on Social Intercourse ; he also received the degree of A.M. from Harvard College in 1822. Having studied law, he was admitted to practice and commenced at Canton in 1815, from whence he removed to a wider field in Boston in 1837.

He represented Canton in the Legislature of this Commonwealth seven years, and Boston, after his removal, five years. He was chairman of the committee on " Contested Elections " in the years 1845-6 and '47, and made several valuable reports. Under Governor Briggs' administration he was one of his Councillors in 1849 and '50.

Brother Tolman was married to Elizabeth C., daughter of Col. Jacob Stearns, of this city, April 30, 1846, by the Rev. Ephraim

Peabody, D.D. Though he entered the matrimonial vineyard at the eleventh hour, yet he received his penny. He was a happy man. His wife was a very amiable and pleasing woman, and of a domestic character. Her death transpired November 26, 1866, at the age of fifty-eight. She left but one child, Miss Elizabeth S. Tolman, who was born April 5, 1851. Such is a brief summary of his public life. His masonic character stands high on the roll of the craftsmen.

He was initiated in Rising Star Lodge, of Stoughton, of which he was elected Master several years.

He was H.P. of Mount Zion, R.A. Chapter in Stoughton in 1823, G.H.P. of the G.R.A. Chapter of Massachusetts 1844 and 1848, and was Deputy G.H.P. in 1841, '42, '43 and '44. July 4, 1825, as District Deputy G.M. he was deputed to lay the corner-stone of the Court House in Dedham, on which was afterwards erected a beautiful granite edifice of the Doric Order. He delivered an address on the occasion, neat and appropriate, and spoken of in high terms by those who witnessed the ceremonies.

He was elected S.G. Warden of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts three times, and in 1849 he succeeded the late lamented R.W. John J. Loring as Grand Treasurer, an office to which he was annually chosen until December, 1861, thirteen years. His fidelity and correctness in that important station need no comment.

Two eventful incidents in his masonic history ought not to be omitted. He was in that vast concourse of the fraternity when, on the 17th day of June, 1825, the corner-stone of the Bunker Hill Monument was squared, levelled, and plumbed by our M.W.G. Master, the Hon. John Abbott, Gen. Lafayette, and Daniel Webster. The sky was auspicious, the spectacle sublime, and to those august ceremonies of that day, the eloquence of Webster gave a finish and splendor never surpassed, if ever equalled, upon an occasion of this kind.

He was also one of the six thousand Freemasons of Boston and its vicinity who, on the 31st day of December, 1831 — nearly forty years ago — signed that eloquent DECLARATION, exhibiting the

nature and principles of our Institution, and protesting against the calumnies and persecution of our enemies. He lived to see their unhallowed efforts vanish into oblivion, and Freemasonry emerge from the ordeal more vigorous and flourishing than ever.

Our deceased Brother was a man of fine literary taste and of extensive reading. He thought highly of our beautiful lectures and believed in the great antiquity of Freemasonry. He thought that a true and well-informed Mason, who cultivated his mind and carried into practice abroad what he was taught in theory at our meetings in the Lodge, was indeed a fair model of a man.

He was never idle, — he loved occupation. In his early life he compiled a Greek grammar for his own use. He wrote a history of his native town, Canton and Sharon; and it is to be lamented that he did not revise and publish it. Such works are becoming exceedingly precious, and the N.E. Historie-Genealogical Society, into which he was admitted April 1, 1863, has now in its library more than three hundred volumes of Town Histories.

In his profession he was a well-read, sound lawyer, and excellent counsellor, ever ready to be a peace-maker among men too prone to go to law and waste their property in idle litigation.

In a word, Brother Tolman, always looking upon the bright side of human life, was an agreeable and cheerful companion, exemplary in all the relations of life, kind in his feelings, and with the courteousness of a gentleman belonging to the old school. It was a fixed maxim with him to owe no man; and among the members of our fraternity no one set a higher value on the moral teachings of the square and level.

He lived to a good old age, though some months before his death he began to fail, and he felt the truth of that striking oriental figure, — *The Grasshopper shall become a burden*. He told his friends he was anxious to set his house in order, and he did. After a confinement of a few weeks, in which he was not a severe sufferer, he quietly went away —

“Passing through nature
To eternity!”

He has joined the silent assembly of our departed Grand Masters who were his cotemporaries: John Soley, John Abbott, Augustus Peabody, Paul Dean, Edward A. Raymond, Simon W. Vinson, and last of all, a member of the Grand Lodge, our worthy and enthusiastic Brother, Thomas Power, the lover of poetry and music, and who has left us some sweet memories of his genius, — wreaths of evergreen which he wove around the pillars of our temple.

He was buried in Stoughton, where Rising Star Lodge, over which he presided, dropped the sprig of acacia into his grave.

Resolved, That in the death of our lamented Brother, R.W. Thomas Tolman, we have lost a member of the Grand Lodge who has sustained high honors in the same, as also in other fraternities of our Order, and, by his virtues, integrity, talents, and courteous friendly demeanor has endeared his memory to all our Brethren, and especially to this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That during a long life, extending to a good old age, more than thirty years of which he was a Mason, always active, and much of the time in the office, Brother Tolman has left a character honorable to masonry and highly respected in the community. As an evidence that your committee is not too partial to his worth, they would refer to a happy epitome of the character of this excellent man in the *Boston Transcript*, June 22, 1869: "He was one of the most gentle and amiable of men, universally beloved and esteemed wherever he was known."

JOHN H. SHEPPARD.

CHAS. W. MOORE.

September 8, 1869.

R.W. Br. Benjamin Dean, in behalf of the committee on the complaint of Br. J. W. Denney against Adelphi Lodge, made the following report, which was accepted, and the commendation adopted.

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 8, 1869.

The committee to whom was referred the complaint of Br. J. W. Denney against Adelphi Lodge, after an investigation of all the circumstances complained of, are of opinion that the proceedings were regular.

Br. Denney's complaint under Article 3, Section 7, of the

Grand Constitutions, appears by the records to have been considered and passed upon by the Lodge.

The committee recommend that the complaint be dismissed.

BENJAMIN DEAN.
JOHN KNEELAND.
F. G. WALBRIDGE.

The committee to whom was referred the amendments to By-Laws, reported as follows :—

IN GRAND LODGE, Sept. 8, 1869.

To the M.W. Grand Master, Wardens and Members.

Your Committee appointed to examine the amendments to By-Laws of Quinnebaug Lodge, Chicopee Lodge, Mount Olive Lodge, Isaac Parker Lodge, and the new draft of By-Laws of Fellowship, Ancient Landmark, and Trinity Lodges, report that they have examined the same, and find them all in conformity with the Constitutions of this M.W. Grand Lodge, and recommend that they be approved.

Respectfully submitted.

W. F. SALMON.
JAMES UTLEY.
J. W. JORDAN.

On motion, it was *Voted*, That the report be accepted and the recommendation adopted.

The following committees were granted further time :

On so much of the Grand Master's Address as refers to the " Powers of the Board of Directors."

On complaint of the Grand Lodge of California against Mount Hollis Lodge.

On the petition of Lewis Hayden and others.

On the records of the Grand Lodge.

A communication was received in reference to laying the corner-stone of the new post-office in this city, which was referred to the Grand Master, with full powers.

The M.W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

DECEMBER 8, A.L. 5869.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNICATION of the M.W. Grand Lodge
Massachusetts was held at Masonic Temple, on Wednes-
day, December 8, 1869.

P R E S E N T.

W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER . . .	Grand Master.
W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY . . .	Deputy Grand Master.
W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	Senior Grand Warden.
W. IVORY H. POPE	Junior Grand Warden.
W. JOHN MCCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Correspond'g Grand Secretary.
W. ANDREW G. SMITH	D.D.G.Master, District No. 1.
W. TRACY P CHEEVER	" " District No. 2.
W. BENJAMIN POPE	" " District No. 3.
W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP	" " District No. 4.
W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	" " District No. 5.
W. HENRY P. PERKINS	" " District No. 7.
W. ANDREW J. CLARK	" " District No. 8.
W. DANIEL UPTON	" " District No. 9.
W. DAVID W. CRAFTS	" " District No. 10.
W. CHARLES G. REED	" " District No. 11.
W. GEORGE E. STACY	" " District No. 12.
W. J. MASON EVERETT	" " District No. 13.
W. JOHN A. LEE	" " District No. 14.
W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr.	" " District No. 15.
W. Z. L. BICKNELL	" " District No. 16.
Rev. CHARLES H. TITUS	Grand Chaplain.
WILLIAM T. GRAMMER	Grand Marshal.
LUCIUS W. LOVELL, } JAMES B. PICKETT, } JOHN HAIGH, }	Grand Stewards.
SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE	Grand Sword-Bearer.
LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Standard-Bearer.
CHARLES KIMBALL	Grand Pursuivant.
E. DANA BANCROFT, } CEPHAS BRIGHAM, } ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, }	Grand Lecturers.
EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, M.D.	Past Grand Master.
R.W. JOHN T. HEARD	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM D. COOLIDGE	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	" " "
R.W. CHARLES C. DAME	" " "
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. Rev. E. M. P. WELLES, D.D.	" " "
R.W. LUCIUS R. PAIGE	" " "
R.W. CHARLES R. TRAIN	" " "
R.W. G. WASHINGTON WARREN	" " "
R.W. SERENO D. NICKERSON	" " "
R.W. NEWELL A. THOMPSON	" " "
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	" " "
R.W. BRADFORD L. WALES, M.D.	Past Grand Warden.
R.W. LORENZO H. GAMWELL	" " "
R.W. JOEL SPALDING, M.D.	" " "
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM W. BAKER	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	" " "
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	" " "
R.W. JOHN H. SHEPPARD	" " "
R.W. ISAAC HULL WRIGHT	" " "
R.W. PETER C. JONES	" " "
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	" " "
R.W. HENRY MULLIKEN	" " "
R.W. GEORGE H. TABER	" " "

LODGES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES.

Aberdour	W. L. Gardner	Senior Warden.
	W. B. Mayhew	Junior Warden.
Adelphi	E. H. Brainard	Master.
Amicable	James Milligan	Master.
	Samuel P. Adams	Senior Warden.
Ancient York	Albion J. Dudley	Master.
Aurora	Charles S. Litch	Master.
Athelstane	James J. Russ	Master.
	N. E. Converse	Senior Warden.
	R. Z. Golbert	Junior Warden.
Alfred Baylies	Charles F. Eddy	Master.
	W. B. Presbrey	Senior Warden.
	Lemuel T. Talbot	Junior Warden.
Ancient Landmark (Shanghai)	William F. Salmon	Proxy.
Adams	Geo. T. Wyer	Master.

Acacia	E. L. Rand	Master.
Bethesda (Brighton) . . .	E. D. Jones	Master.
Belmont	Geo. H. Porter	Master.
Bristol	Thos. G. Sandland	Master.
Blue Hill	H. B. Miner	Master.
Columbian	W. H. Kennard	Master.
Caleb Butler	George V. Barrett	Master.
	H. A. Brown	Senior Warden.
Cincinnatus	W. W. Rice	Master.
Chicopee	William J. Sawin	Master.
Charles C. Dame	Sherman Nelson	Senior Warden.
	Isaac Wilson	Junior Warden.
Dalhousie	H. B. Hackett, jr.	Senior Warden.
Doric	J. L. Harriman	Master.
Delta	Edward Avery	Master.
	Geo. W. Locke	Senior Warden.
	E. A. Hunt	Junior Warden.
Elusis	Geo. P. Sanger	Master.
	J. M. Rodocanachi	Senior Warden.
	Otis E. Weld	Junior Warden.
Eliot	W. H. Macintosh	Master.
Essex	Geo. P. San	Master.
Eureka	N. H. Howland, jr.	Master.
	T. B. Tripp	Senior Warden.
	J. L. Sherman	Junior Warden.
Franklin	Wm. S. Wood	Junior Warden.
Fraternal	R. S. Pope	Master.
	Sam Snow	Senior Warden.
	Charles W. Hinckley	Junior Warden.
Fellowship	F. S. Churchill	Senior Warden.
Faith	W. H. Kent	Master.
Germania	P. Haeberle	Junior Warden.
Golden Fleece	James A. Hollis	Senior Warden.
Gate of the Temple	J. W. Tapley	Master.
	William Neilson	Senior Warden.
Grecian	G. W. Chandler	Master.
	C. H. Littlefield	Junior Warden.
Henry Price	Francis Childs	Master.
	D. E. Chase	Senior Warden.
	Edward F. Everett	Junior Warden.
Hiram	Lewis Spalding	Master.

Hampden	H. M. Hutchinson	Master.
	R. H. Bailey	Senior Warden.
	Theo. Kellogg, jr.	Junior Warden.
Hayden	S. Holmes	Master.
Hyde Park	C. F. Gerry	Master.
	G. F. Beemis	Senior Warden.
	Wm. H. Heustis	Junior Warden.
Huntington	B. H. Kagwin	Senior Warden.
Harmony	H. J. Evans	Master.
Ionic (Taunton)	J. W. Hayward	Senior Warden.
Ionic (Easthampton)	Lafayette Clapp	Master.
Isaac Parker	H. N. Fisher	Master.
	Charles Moore	Senior Warden.
Joseph Warren	Z. H. Thomas, jr.	Master.
	D. A. Lawrence	Senior Warden.
John Hancock	Joseph S. Howe	Master.
	D. Pierce	Junior Warden.
James Otis	Elijah Lewis, 2d	Master.
	Ansel D. Lothrop	Senior Warden.
	Russell Matthews	Junior Warden.
John Cutler	H. F. Whidden	Master.
John T. Heard	John R. Baker	Proxy.
King Solomon	E. P. Tourtellott	Master.
	J. E. Marden	Senior Warden.
	C. R. Whitney	Junior Warden.
Kilwinning	Jonathan P. Folsom	Master.
	H. Hosford	Senior Warden.
	Charles A. Stott	Junior Warden.
King David	J. Brown	Senior Warden.
	Alfred B. Hodges	Junior Warden.
King Phillip	C. E. Gifford	Master.
	L. D. Wilbur	Junior Warden.
King Hiram	John W. Atwood	Master.
Konnohasset	James H. Bouvé	Master.
	Charles A. Gross	Senior Warden.
Lafayette (Boston Highlands)	John Kneeland	Master.
Liberty	Hervey Lunt	Master.
Lafayette (North Adams)	Robert Howard	Master.
Massachusetts	Henry J. Parker	Senior Warden.
	Saml. A. B. Bragg	Junior Warden.
Mount Lebanon	Wm. J. Ellis	Master.
Mount Tabor	Edward H. Morse	Junior Warden.

unt Carmel	John Shaw, 2d	Senior Warden.
	Charles E. Parsons	Junior Warden.
unt Hermon	N. T. Merritt	Master.
	John Viall	Senior Warden.
	S. B. Harrington	Junior Warden.
unt Vernon	E. W. Glover	Master.
	John P. Soule	Senior Warden.
	W. H. Foran	Junior Warden.
ddlessex	F. H. Sprague	Master.
ridian	H. C. Burnham	Master.
unt Olivet	Charles Harris	Master.
	Horace W. Fuller	Junior Warden.
onitor	Geo. R. Emerson	Master.
	Albert T. Bacon	Senior Warden.
rrimack	E. M. Hines	Master.
	Henry O. Burr	Senior Warden.
unt Horeb (Woburn).	A. S. Wood	Master.
	Geo. H. Conn	Senior Warden.
	J. R. Kendall	Junior Warden.
unt Moriah	M. L. Robinson	Master.
stic	Wm. H. Murray	Senior Warden.
	J. D. Ferry	Junior Warden.
unt Tom	M. W. Prentiss	Master.
acute	Henry C. Willson	Master.
	N. R. Scott	Senior Warden.
	Daniel Seagrave	Junior Warden.
ntgomery	E. F. Holbrook	Master.
	J. M. Woods	Senior Warden.
	H. C. Skinner	Junior Warden.
unt Hollis	B. F. Batchelder, jr.	Master.
	H. E. Leland	Senior Warden.
unt Horeb (West Harwich)	O. C. Baker	Master.
	S. Sears	Senior Warden.
	Wm. M. Rogers	Junior Warden.
zpah	Henry Endicott	Master.
orning Star	H. A. Richardson	Senior Warden.
ange	C. W. Barber	Senior Warden.
ve Branch	J. B. Sayles	Master.
	N. H. Sears	Senior Warden.
	H. M. Wilcox	Junior Warden.
ient	W. H. Gay	Master.
	Geo. L. Rhoades	Senior Warden.
	Geo. K. Bird	Junior Warden.
iental	John Pierce	Master.
d Colony	Charles N. Marsh	Master.

Requossette	Charles W. Stone	Master.
	Geo. W. Horne	Junior Warden.
Putnam	J. N. Whitaker	Master.
Pentucket	S. S. Fuller	Master.
Pacific	J. L. Lovell	Master.
Pythagorian	Job A. T. Eddy	Senior Warden.
Pilgrim	S. B. Kelley	Master.
Plymouth	J. C. Fuller	Senior Warden.
	Charles Raymond	Junior Warden.
Philanthropic	Benj. F. Doe	Junior Warden.
Quaboag	Geo. M. Newton	Junior Warden.
Quinebaug	P. T. Litchfield	Master.
	M. K. Olney	Senior Warden.
Revere	Charles H. Bolles	Senior Warden.
	Samuel Wells	Junior Warden.
Republican	George Wilby	Master.
	Frank Farnsworth	Senior Warden.
Roswell Lee	J. E. Shipman	Senior Warden.
	B. S. Hopkins	Junior Warden.
Rising Star	George F. Walker	Master.
	Joshua Brittan	Junior Warden.
Rural	S. S. Bradford	Master.
Robert Lash	J. S. Dillingham, jr.	Master.
	John Edmunds	Senior Warden.
	Wm. Shillaber	Junior Warden.
Saint John's (Boston)	James Mills	Master
	E. J. Long	Junior Warden.
Saint Andrew's	T. E. Chamberlin	Senior Warden.
	Wm. Parkman, jr.	Junior Warden.
Star of Bethlehem	Geo. W. Vose	Master.
	James Tent	Senior Warden.
	W. D. Seeley	Junior Warden.
Saint Paul (Groton)	Mowry Lapham	Master.
Starr King	Henry A. Brown	Senior Warden.
Saint Mark's	Joseph L. Johnson	Master.
Saint Matthew	Geo. H. Valpey	Senior Warden.
Saggahew	B. A. Sawyer	Junior Warden.
Saint John's (So. Boston)	F. G. Walbridge	Master.
	W. H. H. Soule	Senior Warden.
	Geo. S. Worcester	Junior Warden.
Star	C. W. Brannon	Master.
Solomon's Temple	C. F. Baker	Senior Warden.
Siloam	Geo. O. Brigham	Master.
Saint Alban's	Geo. C. Forrest	Senior Warden.
	Wm. H. Torrey	Junior Warden.

Star in the East	James Taylor	Senior Warden.
	Henry Taber, 2d	Junior Warden.
Social Harmony	E. A. Gammons	Master.
	Geo. F. Wing	Senior Warden.
	L. A. Runnells	Junior Warden.
Saint Bernard's	John Blair	Master.
Tyrian	David Parsons, 2d	Master.
	Charles H. Wonson	Senior Warden.
Tuscan	A. A. Currier	Master.
	G. W. Waterhouse	Senior Warden.
	Geo. F. Talbot	Junior Warden.
Trinity	Charles W. Ware	Master.
Union (Dorchester)	N. N. Farrar	Master.
Union (Nantucket)	Perry Winslow	Master.
United Brethren	Geo. H. Adams	Master.
Winslow Lewis	W. H. Chessman	Master.
	P. L. Everett	Senior Warden.
Wyoming	W. Littlefield	Master.
Washington	John F. Newton	Master.
	Joel Seaverns	Junior Warden.
William Parkman	Edwin A. Wadleigh	Master.
	C. H. Moseley	Senior Warden.
Wisdom	Hiram Shook	Master.
	Wm. F. Gale	Senior Warden.
Wilder	Charles A. Wheeler	Master.
	Joseph G. Eaton	Senior Warden.
	T. J. Ames	Junior Warden.
Webster	Fred. T. Chase	Master.
William Sutton	Geo. H. Sweetser	Master.
William North	Theo. Adams	Master.
	A. F. Wright	Senior Warden.
Zetland	A. F. Chapman	Master.
	Charles E. Powers	Senior Warden.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at 2 o'clock, P. M., with prayer by the Grand Chaplain, W. Br. Rev. Charles H. Titus.

The record of the last Communication was read.

Br. John R. Baker was recognized as proxy for John T. Heard Lodge, of Ipswich; Joseph P. Johnson, for King

Hiram Lodge, of Provincetown; Daniel W. Taft, for Solomon's Temple Lodge, of Uxbridge; and George W. Williams, for Starr King Lodge, of Salem.

A communication of Br. Henry Crippen, complaining that his name was omitted in the copy of the Charter of Franklin Lodge, furnished by the Grand Lodge, was received and referred to R.W. Br. George E. Stacy and W. Brothers William H. Kent and Edwin A. Wadleigh.

A complaint made by Br. Edward G. Russell against Mount Olivet Lodge, Cambridge, was received and referred to R.W. Br. Charles R. Train, W. Br. Henry Endicott, and W. Br. George H. Conn.

A communication from the Grand Orient of Italy was received, and referred to R.W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, Charles W. Moore, and Br. Charles Edward Powers.

The following petition from Bethany Lodge, U.D., was received, and referred to R.W. Br. William F. Salmon, W. Br. Henry C. Willson, and W. Br. H. C. Burnham:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Massachusetts.

We, the undersigned, being Master Masons of good standing, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry, and, for the convenience of our respective dwellings, and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, to be named Bethany Lodge.

We, therefore, with the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master, and the Lodges nearest our residence, respectfully pray for a Charter empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge, at WEST AMESBURY, on the first Tuesday in every month, and there

to discharge the duties of Ancient York Masonry in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge.

And we have nominated and do recommend Brother Morton B. Merrill to be the first Master, Brother Charles W. Sawyer to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother Andrew J. Lovell to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

JOSEPH W. SARGENT.	A. A. SAWYER.
CHARLES W. EMERSON.	NELSON S. HOYT.
JOHN K. SARGENT.	ELBRIDGE C. SAWYER.
GEORGE ADAMS.	JOSEPH B. CILLEY.
ISAAC B. LITTLE.	ANDREW J. LOVELL.
F. M. ORDWAY.	HORACE L. SWAIN.
CHARLES W. SAWYER.	A. L. BAXTER.
E. C. HOPKINS.	MORTON B. MERRILL.
THOMAS H. GOODWIN.	WENDELL B. WHITTIER.
BAILEY SARGENT.	JONA. B. SARGENT.
HENRY J. CUSHING.	EDWIN SARGENT.
ISAAC JONES.	J. S. NICHOLS.
J. A. LANCASTER.	

AMESBURY, November 17, 1869.

At a Regular Communication of Warren Lodge the following vote was passed:—

“*Voted*, That the Lodge consent to, and recommend the granting of the prayer of the above petitioners.”

A true copy. Attest,

[SEAL]

S. F. MERRILL, *Secretary*.

I cordially recommend granting the prayer of the within petition.

L. A. BISHOP,

D.D. Grand Master Sixth Masonic District.

The following petition for a Charter was received from Palestine Lodge, U.D., at Malden, and referred to the same committee charged with the petition from Bethany Lodge:—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The undersigned, having been working under Dispensation since December 8, 1868, by the name of Palestine Lodge, hereby submit our Records and By-Laws for approval of the M.W. Grand Lodge, and respectfully petition for a Charter, and to be constituted into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

GEORGE W. PEIRCE.
HENRY L. CHASE.
ALFRED TUFTS.
THOMAS LEAVITT.
JAMES P. STEWART.
J. FRANKLIN WAKEFIELD.
PHILIP HAM.
STEP. A. STIMPSON.
BENJAMIN COREY.
ALBERT W. LEWIS.
H. W. VAN VOORHIS.
J. C. VAN VOORHIS.
PETER HANSEN.
JOHN G. BERRY.

MALDEN, Dec. 8, 1869.

The following Communication from the Grand Lodge of Canada was received, read, and referred to R.W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, Charles W. Moore, and Lucius R. Paige.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. MASONS OF CANADA.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Hamilton, 25th October, 1869. }

To the M.W. Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

M.W. SIR AND BRETHREN, — I have the honor, by command of the M.W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, to bring to the notice of your Grand Lodge the existence of a rebellious and seditious movement by certain mal-content brethren in the Province of Quebec, with the object and aim of establishing a *second* Grand Lodge within our territorial jurisdiction, the supreme control over which has been recognized and accorded to this Grand Lodge by every Grand Lodge in the world.

These rebellious brethren, many of whom are under suspension, called a Convention, which met in the City of Montreal on the 25th instant (at which the public prints report there were about twenty Lodges represented, less than one-half of the Lodges in that portion of our jurisdiction—and two of the Lodges mentioned had been suspended for the contumacious conduct of its members), and formed a so-called Grand Lodge, electing officers, &c., &c. In the same report it is stated that Brother J. H. Graham, of Richmond, was elected Grand Master, and Brother Edson Kemp, of Nelsonville, Grand Secretary, &c. Doubtless this pretended organization will shortly make application to your M.W. Grand Lodge for recognition, counsel, and support. The Grand Lodge of Canada is preparing a circular which it is intended shall be sent to all the Grand Lodges with which it is in friendly and fraternal correspondence, containing full and complete information in regard to this most unmasonic and unconstitutional movement, and, pending its reception, I am to express the hope that your Grand Lodge will in no manner accord a recognition to this irregular and clandestine organization.

I have the honor to remain

Your obedient servant and brother.

[SEAL]

THOS. B. HARRIS,

Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Canada.

The following petition from Blackstone River Lodge was received, read, and referred to R.W. Br. William D. Coolidge, W. Br. William H. Chessman, and R.W. Br. Charles Levi Woodbury :—

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Be it known that the Blackstone River Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, your petitioners, would most humbly set forth and show unto your most Honorable Body, that Benjamin Booth, a Master Mason, and member of Blackstone River Lodge, in good

standing, is now confined in Londonderry jail, Ireland, awaiting trial for the alleged crime of murder; and they would further most humbly set forth, and show unto you, that the said Benjamin Booth has been a member of our Lodge for about four years, and is known to us not only as a brother distinguished for his fidelity to the Craft, but as a man of free and generous impulse, endeared to his many friends by his kind and courteous demeanor, and esteemed by all for his manly qualities and christian virtues. A man discreet in all his actions, with a temper well governed and restrained, we cannot but feel that he was impelled to the commission of the act for which he is arraigned by the most aggrieving circumstances at a time when he was in imminent peril of his life. Therefore, your petitioners would most humbly pray that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge will cause his previous reputation and good character to be set forth and shown unto the brethren of the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons which may be in the vicinity of his confinement and place of trial, and that they be asked to render unto him our warmest heartfelt sympathy, to give him the full benefit of every extenuating circumstance, to throw over him the broad mantle of charity, and to do all that they can consistently with their duty to their God and their country to procure his speedy release. And your petitioners will, as in duty bound, ever pray, remembering that we are all in the bonds of a Brotherhood world-wide in its existence and benefits.

[SEAL]

CALEB G. CARR, W.M.
BENN AINSWORTH, S.W.
LORENZO F. AMES, J.W.

Given under the seal of Blackstone River Lodge by vote at a regular communication, held November 16, 1869.

GEO. H. BATES,
Secretary.

The Auditing Committee made the following report:—

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON, December 8, 1869.

The Auditing Committee of the M.W. Grand Lodge have at-

tended to their duty for the year ending on the 6th instant, and respectfully submit the following

REPORT.

They have examined the books and accounts of the R.W. Grand Treasurer, and find the same to have been correctly and accurately kept, and his payments duly authorized and properly vouched.

The Treasurer charges himself with the following

RECEIPTS.

From Balance from last year		\$3,517.94
„ Notes	\$145,000.00	
„ D.D. Grand Masters and Commutation.	89,258 19	
„ Rents	23,874.90	
„ Dispensations	100.00	
„ Charter	50.00	
„ Lodges U.D.	185.00	
„ Interest	82.09	
„ Bonds sold	8,100.00	216,800.18
Total		<u>\$220,118.12</u>

The Treasurer claims to be credited with the following

PAYMENTS.

Grand Master's expenses, &c.	\$ 222.75
D.D.G. Masters' „	1,018.60
Grand Secretary's salary eighteen months, office expenses, &c.	918.48
Printing, stationery and diplomas	1,559.08
Notes paid	178,100.00
Interest paid	26,506.25
Treasurer's salary, postages, stamps, &c.	298.50
Insurance on Temple	8,587.50
Superintendence and cleaning Temple	1,974.92
Engineer and coal	1,641.14
Repairs, &c.	882.38
Taxes for 1867-68	5,244.00
Incidental Expenses	1,782.09
Cash balance on hand	1,947.48
	<u>\$220,118.12</u>

The present liabilities of the Grand Lodge are as follows : —

First Mortgage	\$150,000.00	
Second Mortgage \$150,000, less bonds unsold \$33,000	117,000.00	
Floating debt	89,000.00	
Taxes for the present year	5,480.00	
Salaries, interest, and sundry bills estimated	2,020.00	
		363,500.00
Less cash on hand		1,947.48
Present liabilities		\$361,552.52

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in December, 1868, your committee reported the liabilities as \$377,460.79, showing a reduction during the past year of \$15,908.27.

At the Annual Communication in December, 1867, the committee reported the liabilities as \$399,713.29, showing a reduction in two years of \$38,160.77.

Your committee are of opinion that the total reduction of the debt from the highest point (in the fall of 1867) has been, in round numbers, \$75,000.

While your committee congratulate the Grand Lodge upon this very gratifying exhibit, they cannot refrain from expressing the opinion that our financial affairs will not be in an absolutely sound and safe condition until the debt shall have been reduced one hundred thousand dollars more.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SERENO D. NICKERSON.
WM. D. COOLIDGE.

On motion of R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, the report was accepted.

The Grand Treasurer made his annual report on the "Sinking Fund," which was accepted.

Report of Grand Treasurer in regard to the Sinking Fund, derived from the Capitation Tax ordered by decree, passed March 18, 1867.

	1867.	1868.	1869.
Number who paid \$10	1,042	241	30
" " 9		1,740	141
" " 8			1,002
" " 1	15,178	14,776	13,917

Receipts from tax in 1867	\$25,598.00
" " " 1868	33,182.00
" " " 1869	<u>25,327.75</u>
Total receipts	\$84,107.75

All of which has been invested in Grand Lodge notes.

Whole number of members who have commuted 4,196

The Returns from the Sixteenth District for the past year not having been received, are not included, although the dues have been paid over.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN McCLELLAN,

Grand Treasurer.

Boston, December 8, 1869.

The M.W. Grand Master made the following

REPORT.

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE,—

At the Quarterly Communication, held March 14, 1866, the Grand Lodge—

Voted. I. "That the Grand Master be authorized and empowered to draw upon the Treasurer for such sums of money as are necessary to defray the expenses of the meetings of the D.D. Grand Masters at the Annual and Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Master, in his Annual Address, report such expenses."

II. "That in constituting new Lodges, the travelling expenses *only* of the Grand Officers shall be paid by the Grand Lodge."

III. "That whenever the Grand Officers are invited to perform the ceremony of installation, either publicly or in private, the entire expense shall be borne by the subordinate Lodge."

IV. "That the M.W. Grand Master be instructed to make a detailed report of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge in his Annual Address."

In compliance with these directions I submit my report at this time, when the attendance of the members of the Grand Lodge is much larger than is usual at the Installation Festival.

Sixty-six years ago the District system was established in this jurisdiction, and for years it has been absolutely indispensable in the proper administration of the affairs of the Grand Lodge. The first notice upon the records of any meetings of the Board of Deputies appears in the report of D.D. Grand Master William D. Coolidge, made December 7, 1857, wherein he says: "A pleasant feature in the doings of the past year is the occasional meeting in Boston of the District Deputy Grand Masters for the purpose of comparing notes, acting in uniformity, and encouraging each other in the promotion of masonic interests throughout the State."

On the 8th of December, 1858, the Grand Lodge —

"*Ordered*, That the District Deputy Grand Masters be authorized to hold quarterly meetings for the purpose of consulting upon any questions that may arise in the several Districts for the discussion or action of the several District Deputy Grand Masters, and that the expenses of such meetings and of the officers attending the same, shall be paid by the Grand Lodge."

It has been customary, since this Order was passed, for the Deputies to assemble in the morning of Grand Lodge day, and discuss such matters as may be brought up. The Grand Master has generally called upon them when in session to give them such advice and instruction as he might consider proper, after which the Deputies have dined together.

During the present year no person has been admitted to this dinner, outside of the Board of Deputies, the order having been construed strictly that it applied to the Board of Deputies, and to no other officer or member of the Grand Lodge.

In accordance with your instructions, I report that I have drawn upon the Treasurer for the purpose of defraying the expenses of —

The meeting of Deputies held March 10, 1869	\$52.00
" " " June 9, 1869	36.00
" " " September 8, 1869	36.00
" " " December 8, 1869	45.00
Total	\$169.00

The second vote of March 14, 1866, "That in constituting new Lodges the travelling expenses *only* of the Grand Officers shall be paid by the Grand Lodge," has also been strictly construed. I have decided that "travelling expenses *only*," include the expenses of conveyance, and not hotel bills and entertainment. My predecessor in office so decided, and such was the intention of the committee which submitted the vote.

The bills containing in detail the items of expenditure for constituting new Lodges and dedication of halls, examined and approved by me, have been settled by the Grand Tyler, and properly receipted, placed on file in the Grand Treasurer's office, subject to the inspection of the Grand Lodge, and those brethren interested therein. This course has been pursued alike, whether the Grand or subordinate Lodges paid the bills.

In dedicating halls, the Grand Lodge has been at no expense.

The amount expended by the Grand Lodge this year, in constituting new Lodges, is \$22.40.

Two bills, amounting to \$172.73, incurred in previous years, have been paid this year, and charged to the Grand Master's account.

The installations of officers of Lodges have been confided entirely to the District Deputy Grand Masters.

The premises upon which this Temple is erected were purchased March 24, 1859, for \$106,500, in conformity with a vote of the Grand Lodge previously passed. Repairs and alterations upon the Winthrop House, then standing on this site, and upon the masonic apartments, with the expense of furniture, swelled the cost to \$140,000. There were outstanding mortgages upon the estate, at the time of purchase, of \$71,000, which the Grand Lodge assumed, making the actual interest in real estate and furniture about \$69,000.

The Winthrop House was entirely consumed by fire April 5, 1864. By this disastrous conflagration the Grand Lodge was left with the real estate then valued at about \$175,000, — the insurance amounting to \$55,000 on the real estate, \$400 on the

Library, \$5,700 on personal property, amounting in all to about \$61,000, which was paid, and the value of the debris above the cost of clearing it away.

There was a mortgage upon the estate of \$40,000 due the Provident Institution for Savings.

At the Quarterly Communication, held in June, 1864, the Grand Lodge—

“*Resolved*, That the Directors of the Corporation are hereby authorized to cause a suitable Masonic Temple to be erected on the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, in Boston, upon the site of Freemasons’ Hall, recently destroyed by fire, and to raise all necessary funds by mortgages of the premises or otherwise, and to purchase any additional land adjoining the said lot that may be necessary for the convenient location of the Temple at the site now owned by the Grand Lodge.”

Under this vote, the Board of Directors selected a plan for a building, and laid the foundations of this structure. The estimated expense of building, according to the plans selected, was about \$175,000, exclusive of furnishing.

April 25, 1865, the Building Committee reported to the Board of Directors “a statement of expenditures on the Winthrop House estate, since the fire in April, 1864, including the taking down of the walls, the removing of the debris, and the laying of the foundations and first floor of the new building,” amounting in all to \$14,754.68.

Receipts for materials sold	\$1,490.07
Estimated value of materials on hand	12,000.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$13,490.07
Excess of Expenditures over receipts and materials	\$1,264.61

The report goes on to say: “It will be seen that the amount thus expended over and above the estimated value of the materials saved from the ruins, all of which, it is believed, will be available in the new structure, is \$1,264.61. They have also the satisfaction to report that the mortgage on the property for

\$40,000, held by the Provident Institution for Savings, as also the mortgage held by the Trustees of the Grand Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge for \$50,000, have been discharged, and that all claims and demands against the estate have been paid, and that the premises are now free and unincumbered."

At this date, April 25, 1865, there remained in the Grand Treasury \$262.07.

In August, 1865, the estate was mortgaged to the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company to secure the loan of \$100,000 for ten years.

At the annual election of Grand Officers in December, 1865, a Board of Directors was chosen, of which seven out of the nine were new members. By this Board the plans of the building were modified and changed.

Grand Master Dame, in his Annual Address, delivered December 27, 1867, in referring to this subject, remarked: "As is not uncommon in undertakings of such magnitude, the cost of the building has been largely in excess of the original estimates. It was supposed that it could be put up and finished at a sum not exceeding \$250,000; and had the original plan been adhered to, the actual cost would probably have not much exceeded that amount. Other counsels, however, prevailed; the walls of the building were raised, its internal structure was changed, a much larger portion than was originally intended given up to masonic purposes, and its cost correspondingly increased."

Under the new management, the \$100,000 obtained from the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company was soon exhausted. On the 26th of September, 1866, the Directors voted to borrow of the Five Cents Savings Bank, of Boston, \$150,000 on three years, at a rate of interest since determined to be 7 per cent. This loan was effected, and the previous mortgage was discharged, so that the mortgage to the Five Cents Savings Bank became and still is a bottom mortgage.

The additional \$50,000 obtained was expended before long, and it became necessary to raise more money to carry on the

building. The mortgage to the Five Cents Savings Bank had exhausted the power to raise more money in this manner, for it is well known that corporations will not loan money upon a second or subsequent mortgage. Accordingly, the plan was devised of issuing bonds of the Grand Lodge for \$150,000 at 6 per cent. interest, running ten years, secured by a second mortgage to Brothers Lowe, Thompson, and Sutton, as trustees. This mortgage was made and the bonds issued December 1, 1866.

It was found extremely difficult to negotiate these bonds.

To carry on the building the Board of Directors were compelled to borrow money on short credit, and in December, 1866, the Grand Master recommended the creation of a sinking fund for the liquidation of the debt. In March, 1867, the Grand Lodge voted to establish an annual capitation tax of one dollar for thirteen years, to be applied to a sinking fund. This tax has been and is extremely unpopular with the Craft; but it is difficult to see how the Grand Lodge could have managed without it. The mode of its creation may be objectionable, but the Board of Directors had placed the Grand Lodge in such a financial position that immediate relief was absolutely necessary, and this was resorted to as the only expedient.

The first and perhaps the only statement of the cost of this Temple was made at the annual meeting in 1867, when it was reported to be \$453,532.03, including interest, insurance, furniture, and organ. The whole liabilities of the Grand Lodge, at that time, were stated by the Grand Master to be \$473,241.02, from which being deducted the amount of the sinking fund \$24,997, bonds unsold \$42,000, and cash on hand \$6,530.73, left the net liabilities \$399,713.29.

In December, 1868, the Grand Master, in his Annual Address, said: "One year ago last July the debt of the Grand Lodge was about \$485,312.81. At the present time it is about \$375,000, showing a deduction in eighteen months of about \$60,000. The floating debt at the present time is about \$116,000, as follows: \$10,600 due in 1870-1, \$40,000 due in February next, and \$65,000 on temporary notes given on four months."

In the communication which I had the honor to submit to you last March, the floating debt was stated to be \$40,000 less than it should have been, a loan for that amount due to one individual having been omitted in the statement.

When the present Board of Directors entered upon their duties, on the 30th of December last, they found the premises, formerly leased to Copeland and Tarbell, unoccupied (except temporarily). A special committee was appointed with authority to let these apartments. Various attempts were made, but without success, until, in April, a contract was made with Kimball Brothers, the present lessees. Their tenancy commenced on the 1st of May, and by the terms of the lease, which is for ten years, they pay \$9,000 per annum for seven years, and \$10,000 for the last three years, and one-third of the taxes annually assessed upon the entire premises. They are also required to make all repairs needed during the term.

The annual rent agreed upon is much less than it was supposed that these apartments would command, and is perhaps less than they will bring five years hence. But this bargain was the best the Directors could make with responsible parties, and is perhaps much more advantageous than could have been made at any time since.

When Mr. Copeland gave up the St. George's Rooms there were many fixtures which were in dispute, but the matter was amicably adjusted, and the Grand Lodge retained substantially all that were valuable and needed in these rooms.

Under the arrangement made with Messrs. Copeland and Tarbell, they supplied the Temple with steam for heating purposes. The present Directors were compelled to take this matter into their own hands. They have employed Br. John H. Densmore, as engineer, at a salary of \$1,200 per year, upon a contract by which he agrees to do the ordinary repairs upon the boilers and engine. The high price of coal will enhance the cost of heating the present season. The engineer's salary, coal, repairs, and wear of boilers, pipes and machinery, will bring the cost of heat-

ing to about \$2,100. Steam is furnished to Kimball Brothers at \$250 for the six months commencing November 1, and negotiations are still pending to furnish their under tenant.

In February the Directors caused eleven hundred and sixty-one of the Grand Lodge Bonds, of the denomination of \$100, and thirty-four of the denomination of \$1,000, to be burned. These bonds had never been issued or used, and were not included in the \$150,000 ordered to be issued.

Special votes of the Board of Directors were reported to you in March and June last.

An attempt was made, in June last, at the time of the Peace Jubilee, to obtain money by opening this building to visitors. The receipts barely covered the expenses.

On the 7th of December the Board —

“ *Voted*, That the Board of Directors recommend to the Grand Lodge the passing of the following Order : —

“ *Ordered*, That a Commutation of Seven Dollars be received until July 1, 1870, of those members who are not in arrears for Grand Lodge dues, after which no commutation will be received.”

As stated to you in March last, the receipts and expenditures of the Grand Lodge during this year have been charged and credited to certain impersonal accounts, so that you will be enabled to see the cost of each department separately. Many of the payments made this year have been of bills contracted during the last and previous years, but not perhaps to a very large amount.

From the Auditor's Report it appears that the Grand Treasurer has paid on account of —

The Grand Master's account	\$ 222.75
„ Grand Secretary's account	2,472.56
„ D.D. Grand Masters' account	1,013.60
„ Notes	178,100.00
„ Interest account	26,506.25
„ Temple expense	12,829.89
„ Incidental account	1,782.09
„ Grand Treasurer's account	298.50
Total	<u>\$218,170.64</u>

Of these payments the Grand Secretary's account is charged with \$2,472.56, which includes printing \$1,109.08, diplomas \$1,000, and his salary for eighteen months amounting to \$750, leaving the amount of \$163 as the ordinary expenses of his office.

Another large item is the Temple Expense account of \$12,000.89, which includes —

Insurance	\$3,587.50
Salary of Superintendent at \$1200, expenses of cleaning building, and Mrs. McMurdy's wages	1,970.92
Engineer's salary at \$1200, and coal	1,645.14
Repairs	882.38
Utilities	5,244.00
Total	<u>\$12,829.89</u>

Ordinary current expenses of the Grand Lodge for 1867-8 were	\$7,441.78
for 1868-9 they are	<u>5,186.45</u>
leaving a saving this year of	\$2,305.28

It is fair to state that part of this reduction is owing to the fact that my predecessor dispensed with the usual collation to the brethren on the occasion of the exemplification of the work a year.

From the D.D. Grand Masters for Grand Lodge dues have been received	\$38,149.19
The commutations and tax received this year, included in the amount received from the D.D. Grand Masters, amounts to	\$39,238.19
The number of initiates are 1,804 and, at \$5 each, amounts to	9,020.00

There has been a slight falling off in the number initiated this year.

1867, number of initiates	2,280
1868, " "	2,098
1869, " "	1,804

Grand Treasurer has received for rents	\$23,874.90
--------------------------------------------------	-------------

The annual rental is as follows :—

Boston Commandery	\$ 1,800.00
De Molay „	1,400.00
St. Bernard „	800.00
Grand Chapter	200.00
St. Paul's Chapter	700.00
St. Andrew's Chapter	700.00
Germania Lodge	800.00
Winslow Lewis Lodge	1,200.00
Eleven Lodges at \$600 each	6,600.00
Council of Select and Royal Masters	600.00
Bodies of the Scottish Rite	800.00
Kimball Brothers	9,000.00
Total	<u>\$24,100.00</u>

The present indebtedness of the Grand Lodge is as follows :—

Floating debt, in notes	\$ 89,000.00
Note to Five Cents Savings Bank, secured by mortgage	150,000.00
Grand Lodge Bonds „ „	117,000.00
Sundry small bills	7,500.00
	<u>\$363,500.00</u>
Deduct cash on hand	2,000.00
Present Debt	<u>\$361,500.00</u>
December, 1867. The debt, as shown by the report of the Auditing Committee, was	\$299,718.29
December, 1868. The debt, as shown by the report of the Auditing Committee, was	\$377,460.79
December, 1869. The debt, as shown by the report of the Auditing Committee, is	\$361,500.00
Showing a reduction of the debt since December, 1867, of	88,218.29
And a reduction of the debt since December, 1868, of	15,960.79

The reduction would have amounted to about \$20,000 this year if the Grand Lodge had not lost by Mr. Copeland, and by the St. George's Rooms remaining unrented for some months.

The whole amount received from the Brethren on account of the sinking fund is \$84,107.75

Since the construction of the Temple the Grand Lodge has received the following gifts :—

From St. Paul's R.A. Chapter, Boston	\$1,000.00
„ Br. W. C. G. Perry, of Boston	25.00
„ Br. W. S. Kingsbury, of Boston	20.00
„ W. Br. Lovell Bicknell, of Weymouth	100.00
Total	\$1,145.00

The entire management of our finances, as reported to you in March last, has been entrusted to a Committee of the Board of Directors, consisting of Brs. Nickerson, Everett, and Fisher, and by their labors and personal credit the floating debt has been renewed from time to time as its several payments became due.

If this debt could be paid, or funded, the Grand Lodge would be relieved of its greatest burden. If the Brethren throughout the State would exert themselves, as they might, it could easily be paid within the next three months.

The Grand Treasurer deserves especial notice for the faithful discharge of the arduous duties of his office. His salary is no adequate compensation for the treasurer of a corporation like this.

During the past year he has received	\$220,118.12
And paid out	218,170.64
Making in all	\$438,288.76

The Treasurer has also, by request, attended every meeting of the Board of Directors during the year, and aided the deliberations with his books, and by his advice.

Before the District Deputy Grand Masters went upon their annual circuits, I sent them the following circular : —

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER, }
Boston, August, 1869.

RT. W. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, —

In entering upon your official duties of annually visiting the Lodges in your District, I desire to call your especial notice to the following matters, which you will carefully note and make report thereon : —

1. You will report the number of Brethren present at each Lodge on the occasion of your official visit, with the number of Members.

2. You will carefully inspect the Lodge-rooms, and see that they are securely tyled.

8. You will ascertain if others besides the proper officers are permitted in the preparation-room with the candidate.

4. Have the Deacons *black rods*, and the Stewards *white rods*; and if not, what, if any rods, have they?

5. Carefully examine the Records, and see that they are properly kept, and that the names of all the Officers of the Lodge are recorded.

6. Has the Lodge in its Hall a copy of the Grand Lodge Constitutions?

7. Are the By-Laws approved by the *Grand Lodge*, and properly attested by the Grand Secretary?

8. Has each Lodge the proper Furniture, and especially the representations of the *Three Lesser Lights*?

9. Is the Work in all respects according to the Grand Lodge requirements, and are the services of a Grand Lecturer needed?

10. Has the Lodge a Master's Carpet?

11. Ascertain generally the financial condition of each Lodge, and the amount of funds it has invested and on hand.

12. If possible, ascertain the manner of examining visitors, and impress upon the Masters and Officers the necessity of careful examination, and that a Brother must have sat with an applicant to be able to vouch for him, and be enabled to state on what degree the Lodge was open when they so sat.

18. Examine the Records to see if non-affiliated Brethren are admitted without the payment of the fee.

14. If possible, impress upon the Masters and Brethren the propriety of enforcing the rule that no Brother can enter the Lodge after it is open without being announced, and permission obtained; and, in like manner, that none leave the Lodge without permission of the W. Master.

15. Report the number of Dispensations granted during your year; to what Lodge; for what; when, and the name to whose benefit granted.

16. You will take charge of all Lodges under Dispensation in your District not enumerated in your Commission, viz.:—

17. Has any Lodge appeared in public procession during the year, and if so, upon what occasions, and was your Dispensation obtained therefor?

18. Endeavor to make your Report as soon as possible after you have performed your circuit.

19. Make your bill of expenses to the Grand Lodge as small as possible, remembering that the Grand Lodge is deeply in debt, and requires the strictest economy in the administration of all its affairs.

20. Have the Officers of Lodges the Collars required by the Constitutions, and if not, in what manner are the jewels suspended and worn?

These are some of your duties. Others, of no less consequence, will impress themselves upon you. Above all, strive to be kind, courteous, affable, and agreeable to all the Brethren. Endeavor to bring them into kindly relations with the Grand Lodge and its Grand Officers. Avoid antagonism. Impress upon the Masters and Wardens the necessity of their attendance upon the

Communications of the Grand Lodge, and that the destinies and control of the Grand Lodge are in their hands; and let the Brethren understand that they have their representation through their chosen officers. Finally, Right Worshipful Brother, remember that you are the only officer of the Grand Lodge who comes in direct and close contact with all the Brethren of your District, and that, as the representative of the Grand Lodge, it is your duty to encourage the zealous Mason, impart instruction where you can, cheer the Lodges, and zealously labor, as co-worker with your Brethren, to elevate the *moral* standard of Masonry in the field assigned to you.

With kind fraternal regards.

WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER,
Grand Master.

The Reports of most of the Deputies are very full and satisfactory, giving detailed statements of the condition of the several Lodges. Inasmuch as some of the Lodges are not in accord with the constitutional and ancient requirements of the Grand Lodge, I would recommend that these reports be referred to a special committee.

Soon after entering upon the duties of this office, I found that the returns of the Lodges in many instances were irregular. I reported this fact to the Auditing Committee, and requested them to make thorough examination of these returns. The committee, however, considered that this was not part of their duties as prescribed by the Constitution, and declined the labor.

I would recommend that the Constitutions be so amended as to provide for a "Standing Committee on Returns of Lodges," and that in the meantime a special committee be appointed, to whom the returns for the years 1867, '68, and '69 be referred.

It is well known that our history embraces the so-called St. John's Grand Lodge which was established in 1733, and the so-called Massachusetts Grand Lodge, which originated in 1769. One hundred years ago, on the 27th of this December, Joseph Warren, the Revolutionary patriot, was installed as first Grand Master of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge. Since the union in 1792, we have followed the forms and customs of this Grand Lodge with singular fidelity. It was the first Grand Lodge upon this continent which declared its independence. I would recom-

mend that the approaching festival be celebrated in a manner becoming the recurrence of such an anniversary, and that a committee charged with the matter be appointed.

It has been customary at this annual meeting for many of the Brethren, immediately after the election of the principal officers, to leave the Grand Lodge.

I desire to impress upon you that you are here as representatives of the Craft, and that it is your duty to participate in all the business brought before the Grand Lodge. You are elected by your Lodges as their representatives, and their rights and interests here are in your hands.

Brethren, be not neglectful of the trust reposed in you.

The R.W. Charles Levi Woodbury, Deputy Grand Master, took the chair.

On motion of R.W. Brother Charles W. Moore, it was *Voted*, That three special committees be appointed, to whom should be referred the Grand Master's Address, viz., on the Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, on the Returns of the Lodges, and on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

The following committee was appointed on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist: R.W. Brothers John T. Heard, Sereno D. Nickerson, Charles W. Moore, Samuel C. Lawrence, and subsequently R.W. Br. Charles Levi Woodbury was added to the committee.

The hour fixed by the Constitutions for the election of officers having arrived, a return of the votes was made by the Grand Marshal, from which it appeared that the whole number that might be cast was four hundred and fifty-three.

On motion of R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, R.W. Brothers Charles C. Dame, Charles W. Moore, and Samuel C.

Lawrence were appointed a committee to receive, sort, and count the votes for Grand Master.

On motion, it was *Voted*, That the call of Lodges be dispensed with in voting for Grand Master.

The committee reported the whole number of votes cast to be three hundred and ninety-two, all of which were for WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, of Boston, and he was declared re-elected Grand Master for the ensuing year.

R.W. Brothers Charles C. Daine, Winslow Lewis, and John T. Heard were appointed a committee to wait upon the Grand Master and inform him of his election.

The committee, with the Grand Marshal and Grand Stewards, returned with the M.W. Grand Master, who was introduced to the Grand East, and informed of his unanimous re-election. The Grand Master accepted the office, and resumed the chair.

R.W. William W. Baker, W. Br. Edward Avery, and W. Br. W. H. Kennard were appointed a committee to receive, sort, and count the votes for Senior Grand Warden. The committee reported the whole number of votes cast to be for W. Br. Samuel C. Lawrence, of Medford.

The committee appointed to receive, sort, and count the votes for Junior Grand Warden, reported the whole number of votes cast to be three hundred and seventy, of which number W. Richard Briggs, of Brookline, received two hundred and seventy-seven, and he was declared elected.

The committee appointed to receive, sort, and count the votes for Grand Treasurer, reported the whole number cast to be for R.W. Br. John McClellan, of Boston, and he was declared re-elected.

The committee appointed to receive, sort, and count the votes for Recording Grand Secretary, reported that a majority of the whole number of votes cast were for R.W. Br. Solon Thornton, of Boston, and he was declared re-elected for the ensuing year.

R.W. Br. Sereno D. Nickerson, R.W. Br. William Sutton, Br. Percival L. Everett, and Br. George O. Carpenter were elected Directors for two years; and R.W. Br. William F. Salmon, R.W. Br. Charles Levi Woodbury, W. Br. Samuel C. Lawrence, and W. Br. Henry Endicott were elected Directors for one year.

R.W. Brothers Sereno D. Nickerson, Samuel P. Oliver, and William D. Coolidge were elected Auditing Committee.

The following amendment to Art. 3, Sec. 1, Part I., of the Grand Lodge Constitutions, was proposed by W. Br. N. T. Merritt: —

“The Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the city of Boston on the second Wednesday of December.”

This was referred to R.W. Br. Charles C. Dame, W. Br. N. T. Merritt, and R.W. Br. Sereno D. Nickerson.

The following communication from Montacute Lodge, Worcester, was received and referred to R.W. Br. John T. Heard, W. Br. Henry C. Willson, and R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis: —

To the Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

BRETHREN, — At the Annual Communication of Montacute Lodge, held November 1, A.D., 1869, it was unanimously Voted,

on motion of Worshipful Br. Wm. A. Smith (first Master of Montacute Lodge), that the Worshipful Master and Wardens memorialize the Grand Lodge in relation to that vexed question of the title borne by Anthony Brown, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England in 1733, viz. : whether it was Viscount Montague or Montacute.

It is presumed the intention of the Grand Lodge in assigning to us the name of Montacute at the organization of our Lodge, June 21, A.D., 1858, was to commemorate and perpetuate the name and title of him who, in 1733, April 30, was pleased "to constitute and appoint the Right Worshipful Henry Price Provincial Grand Master of New England."

It may be here stated that objections have ever, from its first commencement, been made to the title of Montacute as having any connection with the name of Anthony Brown, also to the Coat of Arms represented as pertaining to the family of said Brown. More recently evidence has been submitted to us causing grave doubts in the minds of very many members of the fraternity whether Montacute is the true title.

To ascertain and determine the facts in this case, we would most respectfully and fraternally request you to cause a most thorough and impartial investigation to be made of authentic history, and at your earliest convenience announce the result, with your decision, in such terms that this vexed question may never arise again.

HENRY C. WILLSON, W.M.

NELSON R. SCOTT, S.W.

CHARLES W. MOODY, J.W.

R.W. Br. William F. Salmon, on behalf of the Committee on "Grand Lodge Records," made the following report : —

IN GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS, }
Boston, December 8, 1869. }

The committee, to whom was referred so much of the address of the M.W. Grand Master, delivered March 10, 1869, as relates

to "the Records of the Grand Lodge," have attended to the duty assigned, by examining the records and transcripts from 1733 to the present time.

We found duplicate sets of records complete from July 30, 1733, to September 8, 1869, in an excellent state of preservation, but had much difficulty in ascertaining which were *originals* and which *transcripts*; however, with the assistance of R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, we determined which were the transcripts, and marked them accordingly.

A number of the volumes were in possession of R.W. Br. Moore, a number in the office of the Grand Secretary at the Masonic Temple, and two temporarily in the possession of R.W. Br. John T. Heard, but we had them all before us during our examination.

As there has been no report to the Grand Lodge of any examination of the records and transcripts since December, 1860, we made the examination carefully, and report that, so far as we can judge, the records have been correctly kept and accurately transcribed, with the following exceptions: The record of meeting October 14, 1864, relating to laying the corner-stone of the new Temple appears upon the "transcript," but not the "original," and in many instances the list of Lodges represented has been omitted.

The "transcripts" are sometimes signed by the Grand Secretary, and sometimes the copyist writes the signature as it appears in the "original." We think that the Grand Secretary should always examine and attest the "transcripts."

The minutes of proceedings during the past year have not been written into the "Records" until quite recently. This may have been the custom previously, but of course your committee had not the means of knowing by observation. We can only say that we deem it of great importance to have the records of each meeting made up and entered with the least possible delay.

The volumes examined are not now numbered, but for convenience we will describe them as follows: —

Originals.

- Vol. 1. — From July 30, 1783, to March 5, 1792.
2. — From March 19, 1792, to March 11, 1811.
3. — From June 10, 1811, to September 8, 1817.
4. — From December 8, 1817, to December 27, 1832.
5. — From March 13, 1833, to September 12, 1849.
6. — From December 12, 1849, to September 14, 1864.
7. — From December 14, 1864, to September 8, 1869, and now in use.

Transcripts.

- Vol. 1. — From July 30, 1783, to March 5, 1792.
2. — From March 19, 1792, to September 11, 1815.
3. — From December 11, 1815, to March 8, 1826.
4. — From June 14, 1826, to June 11, 1845.
5. — From September 10, 1845, to September 12, 1860.
6. — From December 12, 1860, to September 8, 1869, and now in use.

After completing our examination we disposed of the books as follows: —

To R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, at his house. Originals: Vols. 1 to 4.

To R.W. Br. John T. Heard, at his house. Originals: Vols. 5 and 6.

To R.W. Br. Solon Thornton, at the office of the Grand Secretary in Masonic Temple. Original: Vol. 7. Transcripts: Vols. 1 to 6.

As the result of our investigation, and in view of the importance of promptly entering and carefully preserving our records, we make the following recommendations: —

1st. That the minutes of the proceedings of each meeting shall be arranged and entered in the record-book by the Recording Grand Secretary within fifteen days thereafter.

2d. That the Recording Grand Secretary shall examine and attest the "transcripts" when made up.

3d. That a committee of the Grand Lodge shall annually examine the Records, and see that they are properly kept and transcribed.

4th. That the Corresponding Grand Secretary shall become the custodian of the *original* record books, and that he provide a place of safe deposit therefor, which shall be satisfactory to the

Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge, and that the Recording Grand Secretary shall keep the "transcripts" in his office for current use, — the originals to be kept for reference solely, and never removed from the designated place of deposit.

5th. That the record of meeting October 14, 1864, be written in the "original" record-book and attested by R.W. Charles W. Moore, who was Grand Secretary at that date.

6th. That volume 4 of the "transcripts" be rebound, and that all the volumes be encased in cloth covers, numbered as herein reported, and marked *transcript* or *original*, as the case may be, and that in future volumes the same system be continued, so as to avoid the difficulties which, in the outset, attended the present examination.

In order to fully carry out these recommendations, we propose the following amendments to the Constitutions: —

Part 1st, Article 8th, Section 9th, add the words: He shall also be the custodian of the *original* record-books of the Grand Lodge, receiving from the Recording Grand Secretary each volume as soon as completed, and keep the same in some secure place, to be approved by the Board of Directors of the Grand Lodge.

Part 3d, Article 1st, Section 1st, add the words: They shall also annually, in November, examine the records of the Recording Grand Secretary, see that they are properly kept and accurately transcribed, and report thereon at the annual communication.

Respectfully submitted.

W. F. SALMON.

ABRAHAM A. DAME.

JAMES M. PORTER.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

Since writing the foregoing we have had placed in our hands the original records of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge from December 27, 1769, to March 5, 1792, and we are informed by R.W. Br. Moore that he has a transcript of the same at his house.

We recommend the same disposition of these as of the volumes before reported on.

R.W. Br. Moore reports this P. M. that the record of the meeting October 14, 1864, which we did not find in the original, is there recorded, but not in the proper place. We have not the volume to refer to, but if his statement is correct, we desire to amend our report to that extent.

W. F. SALMON.

ABRAHAM A. DAME.

JAMES M. PORTER.

BOSTON, December 8, 1869.

On motion of R.W. John T. Heard, it was *Voted*, That the report be accepted and the recommendations adopted. The proposed amendments to the Constitutions were referred to the committee already appointed on amendments.

The committee to whom was referred the complaint of the Grand Lodge of California, against Mount Hollis Lodge, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and the recommendation adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, December 8, 1869.

The committee to whom was referred the communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the M.W. Grand Lodge of California, enclosing a copy of a letter from Stephen Wing, Master of Columbia Lodge, Columbia, California, have attended to the duty assigned them, and beg leave to submit the following report : —

The copy of the letter transmitted is hereto annexed as a part of this report, and is as follows : —

HALL OF COLUMBIA LODGE, No. 28, F. & A. MASONS,
Columbia, February 22, 1869.

To M.W. CHARLES MARSH, Grand Master of Masons of the State of California.

M.W. SIR, — I deem it my duty to inform you of a violation of jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of the State of Massachusetts, or rather by a subordinate of said Grand Lodge, by making a Mason of a person who was, and

is now, a resident within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and of Columbia Lodge, No. 28, of which I am Master.

The circumstances are as follows: One George A. Whiting, for many years a resident in this vicinity and within the jurisdiction of Columbia Lodge, left here one year ago, perhaps more, to visit his friends and relatives in the State of Massachusetts, and with the avowed intention of returning. During his sojourn he was induced (as he avers) by friends and relations who were officers of a Lodge, to petition for the degrees of Masonry, they representing to him that it made no difference where he took the degrees. He did so, and was initiated, passed, and raised in Mount Hollis Lodge, in the town of Holliston, State of Massachusetts. He subsequently returned to his old home, and is still residing here. He is in possession of a Diploma or certificate of membership, and very readily and easily passed an examination. On being informed of the irregularity of the proceedings, he stated that he was not aware of the fact that any regulations would be violated in receiving the degrees in Massachusetts, but took the precaution to question his friends on the subject, and they informed him that it was all right, and that there was no objection to his doing so.

I therefore present the above facts to your notice, that you may, if you think proper, cause the necessary steps to be taken to procure redress from said offending Grand and subordinate Lodge.

Most respectfully and fraternally yours.

STEPHEN WING, .

Master Columbia Lodge, No. 28, F. & A. M.

Your committee have been furnished with a copy of the record of Mount Hollis Lodge covering the doings of that Lodge in conferring the degrees upon said George A. Whiting, and also with a statement of facts in relation thereto from Worshipful Brother E. F. Whiting, at that time Master of Mount Hollis Lodge, which are made a part of this report, and are as follows: —

HOLLISTON, July 30, 1868.

Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

DEAR SIR, — In regard to conferring the degrees of Masonry upon George A. Whiting, in February, 1868, by the officers of Mount Hollis Lodge, being Master of said Lodge at that time, perhaps it would be proper for me to state what I knew of the circumstances of the case. His name was proposed, and the degrees conferred upon him with the understanding that he was a native of this town and was intending to make this his home in future. He is an unmarried man, and has always lived here, until he was twenty-five years of age, where all his near relatives reside. It is true that he has lived a term of years in California, but does not intend to live there longer. He had property in California and returned there some time after receiving his degrees here; but not being able to dispose of his claims to advantage, he has been obliged

to remain there in order to save his property. I know that it his intention to return here in a few months, and will probably spend the remainder of his days in this place. This was his intention when he made application for the degrees. A dispensation was granted in his case, as you will notice by the record. The object of this was to give him an opportunity to attend a masonic festival which was to be held about that time.

We consider that he rightfully belongs to us, and he will reside with us in the future. This place is claimed by him as his home, and he will leave Columbia, California, long before they can possibly obtain the fee for his initiation, which seems to be the object in making a demand upon us.

Fraternally and respectfully.

E. F. WHITING,
Past Master.

HOLLISTON, August 9, 1869.

Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

DEAR SIR,—The following is a true copy of the Records in regard to conferring the degrees of masonry upon George A. Whiting by the officers of Mount Hollis Lodge, A. F. & A. M.:—

HOLLISTON, February 3, A. L., 5868.

Stated communication of Mount Hollis Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

A petition was received from George A. Whiting, — residence Holliston, age 40 years; has never before applied. Referred to Brs. G. T. Daniels, Adin Thompson, and Alfred Cutter. Cash received — Ten Dollars.

Voted, That the petition of George A. Whiting be acted upon, and that he be initiated, if a Dispensation be granted, February 17.

HOLLISTON, February 17, A. L., 5868.

A special communication of Mount Hollis Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was held at the Lodge room this evening. Opened on the third degree in due form, a dispensation being granted by D.D.G.M. H. C. Skinner to ballot upon and confer the degrees upon G. A. Whiting.

Committee on the petition of G. A. Whiting reported favorable, and upon ballot being taken, he was declared elected.

Lodge of Master Masons closed, and one of E. A. opened instead, when George A. Whiting was initiated an E. A. in due form. Cash received from G. A. Whiting — Twenty-five Dollars.

Special meeting appointed February 24.

HOLLISTON, February 24, A. L., 5868.

At a special meeting George A. Whiting was passed to F.C. and raised to a Master Mason in due form.

A true copy of the Records.

Attest. J. D. SHIPPEE,
Secretary Mount Hollis Lodge, A. F. & A. M.

It will be observed that the statements of the Masters of Columbia Lodge and of Mount Hollis Lodge are entirely at vari-

ance upon the proposition to be established, namely, whether at the time the degrees were conferred, said George A. Whiting was a resident of Holliston in this jurisdiction. If he was, then Mount Hollis Lodge has violated no masonic law, written or not written ; if, on the contrary, said Whiting was a resident of Columbia, California, then Mount Hollis Lodge has violated the provision of Section 5, Article 8, of Part 4 of the Book of Constitutions.

Your committee did not feel called upon to settle this question of fact, but respectfully recommend that the whole subject be referred to the M.W. Grand Master to communicate with the M.W. Grand Master of California, enclosing to him so much of the record of Mount Hollis Lodge, and of the statement of its master as are material, with the assurance of this Grand Lodge that when it shall properly appear that Mount Hollis Lodge has in its action violated any provision of masonic jurisprudence, that Lodge shall be held to a rigid accountability.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. R. TRAIN.

J. S. DILLINGHAM.

W. H. CHESSMAN.

R.W. Charles C. Dame, in behalf of the committee to whom was referred the matter of exchange of Grand Lodge Representatives, made the following report : —

The committee to whom was referred the request of a sister Grand Lodge for an exchange of representatives, respectfully report —

That the subject committed to them embraces the consideration and expediency of adopting by this Grand Lodge what is properly known as the Representative System, — a system originating with the Grand Lodge of New York, about the year 1840, and which has since obtained to some extent among the Grand Lodges of this country. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, however, has from the beginning regarded it as a modern invention, not calcu-

lated to promote its own interest or to advance that of its sister Grand Lodges. Its adoption involves the reception and the appointment, if solicited, of a representative to and from every Grand Lodge in the United States and elsewhere. These representatives are appointed without consultation between the parties, and are to occupy *quasi official* seats in the Bodies to which they are accredited ; and as there are some forty Grand Lodges in the United States, each Grand Lodge will necessarily, if the system be fully carried out, be subjected not only to the reception of forty representatives, selected, it may be, at haphazard, but to the necessity of providing each of its own forty representatives with a regalia, consisting, in most cases, of a collar, jewel, apron, and frequently a banner of the Grand Lodge they represent. The expense, if the benefit to be derived from the appointment was adequate to it, might not be, in all cases, a matter of much consideration, though it could not in our case be much less at the outset than three or four thousand dollars.

Your committee do not believe that this Grand Lodge is prepared at present, if it should ever hereafter be, to go into an expenditure of this amount for an object which can only be regarded as more ornamental than useful. They believe that the correspondence and all the usual and necessary interchanges demanded by courtesy, as its business relations with its sister Grand Lodges can be in the future, as they have been in the past, satisfactorily and acceptably conducted through its official organs, without exposing itself to the liability of being misunderstood, and as an inevitable consequence, misrepresented, not from design, but from the want of a proper knowledge of the local condition and bearings — the sub strata — of important questions which are continually arising in the course of its business transactions.

Without going farther into the argument of the question, your committee beg to say, in conclusion, that the subject has already been twice before this Grand Lodge, and rejected ; and in the reaffirmation of its former action, and in accordance with their own convictions, they recommend the adoption of the following vote : —

Voted, That this Grand Lodge deems it inexpedient to adopt the so-called Representative System.

CHARLES C. DAME.

CHARLES F. GERRY.

On motion of R.W. Br. Winslow Lewis, the report was accepted and the vote adopted as recommended.

On motion of R.W. Br. Charles C. Dame, it was *Voted*, That the appointment of Rev. Br. William F. Carver, as Representative of this Grand Lodge to the Grand Lodge of England, is hereby revoked.

R.W. Brother William F. Salmon, in behalf of the committees appointed on the petitions of Palestine and Bethany Lodges for charters, made the following reports, which were accepted and their recommendations adopted :—

BETHANY LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, December 8, 1869.

In the matter of Bethany Lodge, of West Amesbury, U.D., petitioners for a charter, your committee report—

That they find the transcript of the Records submitted very fully and accurately kept, and we trust that the example of the first Secretary may be closely followed.

The By-Laws are in the main correct, but there seems to be an unwarranted assumption of power in suspending and expelling without trial. Every Mason is entitled to trial for misdemeanor, and can only be suspended or expelled by vote of the Lodge after such trial. We recommend that Articles 4, 8, and 14 be so modified as to subject the brother to trial for the offences therein specified in the manner provided by the Grand Constitutions.

When these changes are made to the satisfaction of the M.W. Grand Master, we recommend that a charter be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

W. F. SALMON.

H. C. WILLSON.

H. C. BURNHAM.

PALESTINE LODGE.

IN GRAND LODGE, December 8, 1869.

The committee to whom was referred the By-Laws and accompanying documents of Palestine Lodge, of South Malden, U.D., have examined the same, and report —

The Records neatly and properly kept. We would suggest that the Secretary *attest* the record instead of "*respectfully submitting*" the same.

The By-Laws are consistent with the Constitutions of the M.W. Grand Lodge except that Article 5 provides that "every candidate shall, upon the payment of forty dollars, be entitled to three degrees and membership, by signing the By-Laws," while Article 6 provides for the election of members, &c. We presume that Article 6 is intended to apply only to Masons made in other Lodges, but it does not so state. In Article 9 we suggest that the words "*annual dues*" be substituted for the word *quarterages*. When the proper changes are made to the satisfaction of the M.W. Grand Master, we recommend that a charter be granted.

Respectfully submitted.

W. F. SALMON.

H. C. WILLSON.

H. C. BURNHAM.

R.W. Br. John T. Heard, in behalf of the committee on St. John's Festival, made a verbal report.

R.W. Br. John T. Heard, chairman of the committee on the following petition of Lewis Hayden and others, reported :—

PETITION.

To the Most Worshipful, Ancient, and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

We, the undersigned, represent that in the year 1775 the rites of Masonry were conferred, in an Army Lodge attached to the British Army, then stationed at this Port, upon Prince Hall, Thomas Sanderson, Boston Smith, John Main, John Hartfield,

William H. Gregory, Charles Spooner, John Carter, and others, who were soon after organized as, and dispensed into, a Lodge.

Being thus organized, they made application to Major General Warren for a charter, from whom it appears encouragement was received ; but after his fall no more was heard of it.

In 1779 the petition was again renewed. We do not know that an official answer was ever returned, but tradition informs us that it was made sport of in the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, which fact being made known to them, they said : "This shall never discourage us, nor move us from our purpose we have undertaken, and we will accomplish our design. We will petition to foreigners for what is denied us at home."

The condition of the colored population of the State at that time, denied as they were of the benefits of education for the support of which they were taxed, together with public opinion as then existing and expressed through the journals of that epoch, forbade the recognition of the negro as a man and a brother. This can readily be seen from the fact that African slavery and the slave trade were then lawful in this Commonwealth, and, as a consequence, the pecuniary interests of the Masons of that age transcended their obligations to the brotherhood of man. Nor was it until 1783 that the institution of slavery was abolished, since which time no man has been born in this Commonwealth otherwise than free. We say their condition, together with public opinion, from the fact that Prince Hall and his associates were denied even the right of assembling except by special permit of the authorities of the town of Boston.

Laboring under these disadvantages, the love of masonry prompted, and necessity forced them, to petition the Grand Lodge of England for a charter, and in the year 1784 (up to which time no official answer was given their petition by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge), it resulted in the granting of Charter 459, dated September 29, 1784, which is now in our possession, a true copy of which is here annexed :—

“Effingham, A.G.M. To all and every our Right Worshipful
[The seal of the Grand Lodge
of Masons, London.] and loving Brethren, we, Thomas Howard,
&c., &c., &c., Earl of Effingham, Lord Howard, Acting Grand
Master under the authority of His Royal Highness Henry Fred-
erick, Duke of Cumberland, &c., &c., &c., Grand Master of the
Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Ma-
sons, sends Greeting :

Know ye, that we, at the humble petition of our right trusty
and well beloved brethren, Prince Hall, Boston Smith, Thomas
Sanderson, and several other brethren residing in Boston, New
England, in North America, do hereby constitute the said breth-
ren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the
title or denomination of the African Lodge, to be opened in
Boston, aforesaid ; and do further, at their said petition, hereby ap-
point the said Prince Hall to be Master, Boston Smith, Senior
Warden, and Thomas Sanderson, Junior Warden, for opening
the said Lodge, and for such further time only as shall be thought
proper by the brethren thereof, it being our will that this our ap-
pointment of the above officers shall in no wise affect any future
election of officers of the Lodge, but that such election shall be
regulated agreeable to such By-Laws of the said Lodge as shall
be consistent with the general laws of the society, contained in
the Book of Constitutions ; and we hereby will and require you,
the said Prince Hall, to take special care that all and every the
said Brethren are, or have been, regularly made Masons, and
that they do observe, perform, and keep all the rules and orders
contained in the Book of Constitutions ; and further, that you do,
from time to time, cause to be entered in a book kept for that
purpose an account of your proceedings in the Lodge, together
with all such rules, orders, and regulations as shall be made for
the good government of the same ; that in no wise you omit once
in every year to send to us, our successors, Grand Masters, or to
Rowland Holt, Esq., our Deputy Grand Master, for the time
being, an account in writing of your said proceedings, and copies
of all such rules, orders, and regulations as shall be made as

aforesaid, together with a list of the members of the Lodge, and such a sum of money as may suit the circumstances of the Lodge and reasonably be expected towards the Grand Charity. Moreover, we hereby will and require you, the said Prince Hall, as soon as conveniently may be, to send an account in writing of what may be done by virtue of these presents.

“ Given at London, under our hand and seal of Masonry, this 29th day of September, A.L., 5784, A.D., 1784.

By the Grand Master's Command.

ROWLAND HOLT,

D.G.M.

Witness,

WILLIAM WHITE,

Grand Secretary.”

By the authority of this Charter they opened a regular and perfect Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, in the town of Boston, in which they initiated, passed, and raised Master Masons. This they continued to do as a subordinate Lodge until the year 1808, at which time there being three Lodges among us, one in Boston, one in Philadelphia, and one in Providence, they, under Prince Hall, organized a Grand Lodge in this town aforesaid, which Grand Lodge granted Charters to the several subordinates now existing under the titles and denominations of “ Rising Sons of St. John's, No. 3,” “ Union, No. 2,” and “ Celestial Lodge, No. 4.”

It also granted Charters in several other States which have organized themselves into Grand Lodges.

The three first remaining continued their existence under their old Charters until 1847, in which year the National Grand Lodge was formed.

The African Grand Lodge of Boston, becoming a part of that body, surrendered its Charter and received its present Charter, dated December 11, 1847, under the title of Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and by which authority we this day exist as a Masonic Body, and subordinate to it are the following named Lodges, with their respective locality and membership : —

Union Lodge, No. 2	Boston	40 members.
Rising Sons of St. John's, No. 8	"	48 "
Celestial Lodge, No. 4	"	52 "
Union, No. 7	New Bedford	38 "
Eureka, No. 11	Savannah, Ga.	19 "
Sumner, No. 12	Springfield	29 "
Hilton, No. 18	Savannah, Ga.	21 "

Hayden Lodge, No. 8, Charleston, S. C., withdrawn October, 1868, and with other Lodges formed a Grand Lodge for the State of South Carolina. The requisite number of Lodges out of which to form a Grand Lodge are already in existence in Georgia, and we doubt not will soon organize a Grand Lodge for that State.

Notwithstanding our changed condition—enjoying as we do the benefits of education, and the favorable growth of public opinion—is it questionable, after a lapse of ninety-three years of unsullied masonic existence on our part, aided by civilization and progress, whether the Masons of to-day, unlike their ancestors, free from the perplexing connection with slavery, it having been blotted from the annals of the continent, are ready to assent to the recognition of the black man as standing upon the broad and universal platform of Freemasonry.

And now, since all men in our Commonwealth are equals before the law, inspired by the spirit of the age, the genial and truly "*cosmopolitan*" character of our fraternity, we are prompted to enter this our humble plea for equal masonic manhood in the hope that we be permitted to establish our claim to masonic rite by whatever means the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge may suggest.

(Signed)	LEWIS HAYDEN,	ALFRED R. LEWIS.
	EDWD. C. RUBLEE,	THOMAS MCCARFFY.
	JOHN J. SMITH.	WM. H. W. DERBY.
	RICHARD S. BROWN.	JOHN N. DORSEY.
	JOHN W. PRICE.	CHAS. H. GREENLAND.
	STEPHEN R. DORSEY.	L. D. JOHNSON.
	GEORGE W. BROWN.	CHAS. A. RICKSON.
	A. W. A. DELEON.	ROBERT DORSEY.
	JOSEPH P. HAWKINS.	A. B. CANNEDY.
	FRANCIS P. GRAY.	D. H. CORNEY.
	JOSEPH J. HARVY.	MOSES OLMSTEAD.
	THOMAS FRITCHETT.	WILLIAM GRAY.
	JOHN W. JOHNSON.	

Master Masons of Boston.

ANTHONY G. JOURDAIN, Jr.	EDWARD JACKSON.
GEORGE H. MITCHELL.	in
S. BLECKNELL.	PARKER X SAMPLINGS.
JAMES THOMAS.	mark.
GEORGE DELARREAY.	CHARLES H. CARTER.
AUGUSTUS D. PIPER.	JOSEPH H. SMITH.
JOHN A. AUSTIN.	JOHN W. DAVIS.
ANDREW M. BUSH.	GEORGE H. BRAYWOOD.
JOSEPH M. SCOTT.	DANIEL B. SMITH.
CHAS. H. BROOK.	WILLIAM H. WATKINS.
CHARLES F. FERGUSON.	JOHN W. WILLIAMS.
WILLIAM JACKSON.	MICHAEL WAINER, Jr.
HENRY F. MARTIN.	THOMAS TILMAN.
JAMES WIGGINS.	WALTER S. TILOHMAN.

Members of Union Lodge, No. 7, of New Bedford.

THOMAS THOMAS, W. Master.	ELI S. BAPTIST, Tyler.
GEORGE H. QUEEN, S. Warden.	SAMUEL R. SCOTTROE.
C. A. PURVIS, J.W.	S. E. WRIGHT.
W. N. MONTAGUE, Treasurer.	HENRY O. THIEMANN.
DAVID JENNINGS, Secretary.	A. E. GLASCOO.
I. J. BAPTIST, S. Deacon.	CHARLES DAWSON.
PAYLON WASHINGTON, J.D.	C. K. DORSEY.
W. H. ADAMS, S. Steward.	L. B. ASKIN.
CHARLES W. HALL, J.S.	JOHN Q. JONES.
J. N. HOWARD, Marshal.	W. J. LYNCH.
J. W. FRANCIS, Chaplain.	

Springfield. — List of Officers and Members of Sumner Lodge, No. 12

REPORT.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Lewis Hayden and others, would respectfully report—

That the petitioners are black men who, though they are not members or initiates of Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, nor of regular Lodges within the jurisdiction of any Grand Lodge in correspondence with it, still claim that they are Masons and desire to be recognized as such by this Grand Lodge. They plead, in the terms of the petition, "for equal masonic manhood, in the hope that we be permitted to establish our claim to masonic rite by whatever means the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge may suggest."

There are three classes of signers of the petition, viz. : 1. Lewis Hayden, and twenty-four others, who style themselves "Master Masons of Boston"; 2. Anthony G. Jourdain, Jr., and twenty-five others, who designate themselves as "members of Union Lodge, No. 7, of New Bedford"; 3. Thomas Thomas, and twenty others, who claim to be "officers and members of Sumner Lodge, No. 12, of Springfield." The petitioners do not avowedly represent either of these Lodges, or any others; so that their statements and prayer should be regarded as expressions of individual persons, rather than the representations and request of the Lodges mentioned in the petition.

The petition refers to the origin and progress of the so-called Freemasonry to which the petitioners belong, and embraces a copy of a charter which certain black men, therein recognized as Masons obtained, in 1784, from the Grand Lodge of England and received by them in 1787.

Your committee have examined the charter and believe it is authentic; but as they do not deem it to be necessary at this time to investigate the historical statement contained in the petition, they have not inquired into its legal masonic effect, nor whether any proper organization under it ever took place. The petitioners include only a portion of the persons who claim to derive privileges from this instrument, when it is obvious that the granting of their prayer, for the reasons they advance, would equally benefit their associates who have not joined in the petition, and over whom, therefore, this Grand Lodge would have no control. Under these circumstances, it is not necessary to inquire into the validity of the proceedings of the persons named in the charter, or whether the petitioners have any just claim to be considered their successors.

Lodges professing to be masonic, existing in this Commonwealth without the sanction of this Grand Lodge, are irregular and spurious, and the members of them are, of course, denied masonic intercourse with members of regular Lodges. The Lodges named in the petition stand in this relation to regular

Lodges, and they and their members, including the petitioners, are not recognized by the Craft.

Our constitutions make no distinction on account of the color of persons who desire the benefits of Freemasonry ; and there are no rules or regulations whereby the petitioners, if "worthy and well qualified," are excluded from our fraternity, if they seek admission through duly organized Lodges.

Your committee recommend that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN T. HEARD,
G. WASHINGTON WARREN.
BRADFORD L. WALES.
ISAAC H. WRIGHT.
TRACY P CHEEVER.
CHAS. LEVI WOODBURY.

The report was unanimously accepted.

R.W. Br. John T. Heard, for the Committee on the "Grand Charity Fund," reported progress.

R.W. Br. William D. Coolidge, in behalf of the committee to whom was referred the petition of Blackstone River Lodge, made the following report, which was accepted and the recommendation adopted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, December 8, 1869.

The committee on the petition of the Blackstone River Lodge report —

That they have examined several Master Masons of that Lodge, and are satisfied that the statements in said petition are true, and that Br. Benjamin Booth had a high character for order and integrity, as well as good masonic standing while residing in this State. We recommend that the Grand Master be requested to transmit to the Grand Lodge of Ireland official copies of these

evidences, and request that Body to make such use of them as shall best aid our brother, now in affliction in that country.

WM. D. COOLIDGE.

W. H. CHESSMAN.

CHAS. LEVI WOODBURY.

On motion, it was *Voted*, That the recommendation of the Board of Directors, that the sum of seven dollars be accepted until July 1, 1870, as the commutation fee to the Grand Lodge, and that after that date no commutation shall be received, be adopted.

The following Lodges presented amendments to their By-Laws for approval, which were referred to R.W. Br. William D. Coolidge, W. Br. Lucius W. Lovell, and W. Br. Henry Endicott, viz. : St. Bernard's, Orange, Lafayette (North Adams), Rising Star, Mt. Lebanon, Blue Hill, North Star, Hiram, Day Spring, King David, Meridian, Athelstane, Montacute, Golden Fleece, Winslow Lewis, Mt. Lebanon, Mt. Vernon, Massachusetts, Star of Bethlehem, St. John's, Revere.

The M.W. Grand Master appointed R.W. Br. William F. Salmon, W. Brothers Edwin A. Wadleigh and Charles Harris, a committee on the "Reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters," and R.W. Br. Sereno D. Nickerson and Brothers Percival L. Everett and Daniel W. Lawrence a committee on the "Returns of Lodges for the years 1867-9."

The committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Konohassett Lodge, of Cohasset, in the trial of Br. Thomas Weatherbee, made the following report :—

IN GRAND LODGE, December 8, 1869.

The committee, to whom was referred the record of the proceedings of Konohassett Lodge, Cohasset, relating to the trial on Sep-

tember 3, 1869, of Br. Thomas Weatherbee, a member of said Lodge, have examined said record and report —

That the charge against Br. Weatherbee was presented on the 18th day of June last, at a regular communication of the Lodge, by Br. J. C. Cole. The charge was that of violating his masonic obligation, and contained two specifications. First, lying; second, deception. The last known place of abode of the respondent was in Oakland, Alameda County, California, and notice of the pending of the charge was sent to him at that place sixty days prior to the time of trial in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Regulations. At the trial the respondent did not appear, and no person appearing to act in his behalf, the Lodge proceeded to hear the evidence in the case. It will be noticed that the specifications under the charge are defective and somewhat vague, inasmuch as they contain no allegation of time, place, or circumstance, and, in fact, are not sufficiently specific to give the respondent a knowledge of what he was required to meet, so that he might thereby prepare his defence. The substance of the charge, however, was satisfactorily proved by the evidence offered at the trial, although your committee do not fail to notice the presence of some hearsay testimony which does not contribute to establish the guilt of the respondent, and the admission of which is contrary to the regulations.

The verdict was, guilty of the charge; and the sentence was expulsion from the rights and benefits of masonry — both being by a unanimous vote of the Lodge. Believing that, while the record exhibits the formal defects which we have noticed, no substantial injustice has been done, your committee recommend the confirmation of the proceedings in this case.

TRACY P. CHEEVER.

CHARLES HARRIS.

GEO. P. SANGER.

On motion, it was *Voted*, That the report be accepted and the recommendation adopted.

R.W. Br. Tracy P Cheever, chairman of the committee to whom was referred the proceedings of Excelsior Lodge, Franklin, in the case of Br. Jesse L. Nason, made the following report, which was accepted : —

IN GRAND LODGE, December 8, 1869.

The committee who were appointed at the regular communication of the Grand Lodge, in September last, to examine the record of the proceedings of Excelsior Lodge, Franklin, in the case of Br. Jesse L. Nason, who was tried by said Lodge on the 23d day of June last, have attended to the duty assigned them with as much care as they could bestow upon the subject, and respectfully report —

That they find from this record that Brother Nason was charged with unmasonic conduct in attempting to wrong, cheat, and defraud Brs. R. Eddy and W. A. Kilburn, as set forth in the following specifications : —

1st. That Br. Nason sold to Br. Eddy property belonging to Br. Kilburn, and at an exorbitant price.

2d. That Br. Nason attempted to get possession of notes signed by Br. Eddy without any consideration therefor, by false representations.

3d. That Br. Nason cheated Br. Kilburn by sub-letting premises which he had promised Kilburn not to do upon his honor as a Mason.

A copy of the charge and specifications was duly served upon Br. Nason, who appeared at the time assigned for the trial, and pleaded "Not Guilty." R.W.D.D. Grand Master George W. Stacy was present, and presided at the trial with fairness and impartiality. The specifications under the charge are, in the view of the committee, properly stated, and are sufficient, if proved, to constitute a case of unmasonic conduct, for which the offender might justly be expelled from masonry. Upon the first specification, however, the respondent was acquitted, so that it is only necessary to consider the 2d and the 3d, and the evidence relating

to them. The complainant in the case was Br. R. Eddy, a member of Roman Lodge, No. 223, Rome, New York, and he was the only witness offered to sustain the complaint. From his statement it appears that in the fall of 1867, having been invited to become pastor of a church in Franklin, he made an arrangement with Br. Joseph G. Ray, of that place, to secure him a tenement from the respondent, and of which respondent had possession, at as low a rent as he could. When Eddy came to take possession of the tenement, Nason handed him a lease from Kilburn to Nason for three years, with Nason's assignment to Eddy. The rent reserved in the lease was \$160 per year, and the *bonus* for the assignment was \$300, to be paid by Eddy, who demurred at the payment in this form, claiming that the arrangement made by Ray with Nason was that the *bonus* should be put into the rent. In consequence, however, of the difficulty of procuring another house, Eddy agreed to the arrangement as understood by Nason, upon the condition that Ray, who was present, and agreed with Eddy in his understanding of it, would loan him \$200, which Ray agreed to do, while, as he also said, Nason ought to obligate himself to refund the *bonus* paid, if Eddy should be obliged to give up the premises to Kilburn, the lessor. Nason agreed to this; the lease was assigned, and a few days after Eddy paid \$100 of the *bonus* money of the lease. About the same time Ray told Eddy that he had paid Nason \$200, which he had before agreed to loan Eddy, and which completed the payment of the *bonus*. Afterwards, during the summer, Kilburn called on Eddy and said that Nason had no right to sub-let the house; that he had pledged himself "as a Mason on the square not to do so," and that he (Kilburn) should revoke the lease. Thereupon Eddy called on Ray to see the obligation which Nason had given, and found it to be an agreement to repay to Ray such proportion of \$200 as the whole should bear to the unexpired term of three years, provided Kilburn should return to occupy the house with his own family, and provided that Ray should make over to Nason any notes and securities that he might hold against Eddy for the

sum of \$200, the transaction to be regarded as wholly personal to Ray, and not one from which Eddy should derive any advantage. Eddy further states that this was not the obligation which Nason agreed to give to Ray, although Ray, supposing it to be right, paid the money hurriedly, and never read it until his attention was called to the matter by Eddy. Eddy also says that he gave up his lease from Nason, took a new one from Kilburn, and still owes Ray the \$200, although Ray has neither note or any other security therefor.

This concluded the oral testimony submitted in the case. A communication, signed by Br. W. A. Kilburn, dated at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and addressed to Richard Eddy, Esq., was introduced, stating among other things that the agreement not to sub-let the premises was left out of the original lease by mistake, but that Nason gave his word and pledged himself as a Brother Mason dealing with him on the square that he would not sub-let the house without Kilburn's consent. Then follows a somewhat remarkable statement, viz.: "So far as the assignment written on the back of the lease is concerned, and which purports to be signed by me, I know nothing about it. I never signed it, — it is not my signature; and, furthermore, I never authorized Mr. Nason, or any other person, to put my name to it." This paper, or letter, of Br. Kilburn, to which we shall hereafter allude, purports to have been signed in presence of one of the Deputy Grand Masters of Pennsylvania.

The respondent, upon the conclusion of the testimony offered by the prosecution, having taken the obligation, gave his testimony, which was a denial in substance of all the facts stated by Eddy and Kilburn. He said that the entire arrangement about the lease and assignment, also the obligation to repay a proportion of the *bonus* money, was made with Ray, as he would have nothing to do with Eddy, who was a stranger. He denied that he had ever pledged himself as a Mason not to underlet the premises, and said that he did not know, until after he rented the house to Eddy, that Kilburn was a Mason, and that he (K.) told him that he was

dissatisfied with Eddy's occupation of the house because his family were abusing it.

Although this is a tedious recital, it may be necessary in order to a thorough understanding of this somewhat remarkable case. Here is a charge against a brother of attempting to get possession of notes given by Br. Eddy to Br. Ray without any consideration therefor, and by false representations, when the complainant himself states *directly*, in his testimony, that Ray never had his note or any other security. This would seem to dispose of the 2d specification.

As to the 3d specification, to wit, that Nason cheated Kilburn by sub-letting premises, which he had promised K. not to do upon his honor as a Mason, it should be observed that the lease from Kilburn to Nason was legally assignable, and that this specification must rest solely on the statement of Kilburn in the letter to Eddy, before referred to. In that letter Kilburn states that Nason agreed upon his honor as a Mason and upon the square not to sub-let these premises, although he had a clear right so to do. In the same letter he also says that he never assigned the lease to Eddy, never put his name to it, or authorized Nason, or any other person, to put his name to it. Now, inasmuch as this assignment of the lease was made by Nason, and does not purport to be signed by Kilburn, as it could not be, K.'s mind must have been somewhat mystified about the transaction. He totally misconceives or mistakes it, and as his mistake here is so palpable he may have been equally mistaken as to what Nason told him; for Nason distinctly states that he said nothing about sub-letting the premises, and further, that he didn't then know that Kilburn was a Mason. But apart from the obvious spirit manifested in this letter of Kilburn to Eddy, and the generally unreliable character of his statements, the document is manifestly inadmissible as testimony. It was not given under oath, nor under the sanction of any masonic obligation, nor had the respondent any opportunity to qualify the force of its statements by cross-examination.

As to the testimony of Eddy, the complainant, which was given

with considerable zeal and some bias against the respondent, it will be noticed, as we have already observed, that it is contradicted by the respondent in all its substantial statements. The lease, and other papers submitted in the case, confirm the statement of Nason, and the only question, therefore, is whether these papers were fraudulently made by him and contain provisions directly opposed to his verbal promises to Ray and Kilburn. Upon close examination of the statement of Eddy, it will be seen that Nason's misconduct, if in anything, consisted in representations and promises made to Ray, with whom the entire transaction was conducted. In order to substantiate the charge, the complainant is obliged to testify almost wholly as to what was said by Nason to Ray. In fact, the testimony of Eddy bristles with hearsay, being full of what Ray and Kilburn, who might have been witnesses, said about the transaction. If the statements of Ray and Kilburn, made not in the presence of the respondent, and which are therefore merely hearsay evidence, were excluded from the record as incompetent under the regulations of the Grand Lodge, there would remain no evidence whatever to sustain either the 2d or 3d specifications. Moreover, we cannot forget, in a candid view of this case, to notice the singular fact that although Ray, apparently a resident Mason, made in person the arrangement with Eddy, out of which the difficulty arose, was fully apprised of all its details, and certainly knew all that Nason said to him in the transaction, so that he could have confirmed or refuted what was said by Eddy, yet he was not called as a witness in the case, and has given no testimony concerning it. The absence of a witness who knows all the facts, and who besides, from the nature of the case, knows more than any other person, except Nason himself, can know, is at least unfavorable to the theory of the prosecution.

The result of the trial was that the respondent was found guilty on the 2d and 3d specifications by a vote of twenty-seven to one, and the sentence was expulsion from masonry. This vote, which was without doubt honestly although erroneously given, may perhaps be partially accounted for by the fact that many of the

members may have thought that Nason had really and fraudulently placed the name of Kilburn to the assignment on the back of the lease, for Kilburn himself, as appears by his letter, had received the same impression, which was, as we have already seen, contrary to the truth.

But whatever may have been the impressions upon the minds of the members of the Lodge, and however good their motives, your committee are unanimously of the opinion that the proceedings of Excelsior Lodge, as shown in this record, cannot be confirmed by this Grand Lodge. The verdict cannot stand the test of reason or masonic law and usage. The complainant doubtless thinks that he was driven by the respondent to a hard bargain, but the record falls far short of establishing the truth of the specifications of the charge. If a brother is to be subjected to the shame and disgrace of expulsion from the benefits of this ancient fraternity, it must be only after a fair trial, conducted according to the Grand Regulations and upon clear and competent evidence. Your committee therefore decline to recommend the approval of the Grand Lodge of the proceedings in this case.

TRACY P CHEEVER.

CHARLES HARRIS.

GEO. P. SANGER.

A complaint was received from Br. Adolph Sternfeld, against Germania Lodge, which was referred to R.W. Br. Charles R. Train, W. Br. Henry Endicott, and Br. George H. Conn.

The Committee on the "Masonic Temple" was granted further time; also, further time was granted the Committee on the "Powers of the Board of Directors."

The M.W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form until nine o'clock the next morning.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The Grand Lodge was opened at nine o'clock, A.M., the hour to which it was closed, by the M.W. Grand Master and his Grand Officers. The Grand Lecturers opened "The Grand Lodge of Instruction" as follows:—

W.E. DANA BANCROFT, Senior Grand Lecturer	Master.
W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, Junior Grand Lecturer	Senior Warden.
W. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Junior Grand Lecturer	Junior Warden.
Br. DAVID CRAM, Senior Deacon St. Paul's, Groton	Treasurer.
W. HENRY C. WILLSON, Master Montacute, Worcester	Secretary.
Br. Rev. CHARLES H. TITUS, Grand Chaplain Gr. Lodge	Chaplain.
W. ALBERT L. FESSENDEN, P.M. St. Paul's, Groton	Marshal.
W. MOWRY LAPHAM, Past Master St. Paul's, Groton	Senior Deacon.
Br. HORACE ELDRIDGE, Junior Warden St. Paul's, Groton	Junior Deacon.
W. GEORGE V. BARRETT, Master Caleb Butler, Groton	Senior Steward.
Br. LEVI ARNOLD, Senior Warden Mt. Vernon	Junior Steward.
Br. SERANUS BOWEN, Senior Deacon St. John's, Boston	Inside Sentinel.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Grand Tyler Grand Lodge	Tyler.
Br. FRANK E. CRANE	Organist.
Br. JULIEN W. EASTMAN, Marshal St. Paul's, Groton, } .	Assistants.
W. WALTER L. GARDNER, Master Aberdour, Boston, }	
W. HENRY A. BROWN, Past Master Caleb Butler, }	

The Work and Lectures of the three degrees were fully exemplified in presence of nearly seven hundred brethren. This being concluded, the M.W. Grand Lodge was closed at half-past five o'clock, P.M., in Ample Form.

STATED COMMUNICATION.

DECEMBER 28, A.L. 5869.

A STATED COMMUNICATION of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Masonic Temple, Boston, on Tuesday, December 28, A.L. 5869, for the installation of its officers, and the celebration of the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist.

P R E S E N T.

R.W. CHARLES C. DAME	Past Grand Master, presiding.
R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. ITHAMAR F. CONKEY	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. IVORY H. POPE	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN McCLELLAN	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON	Recording Grand Secretary.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE	Correspond'g Grand Secretary.
R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH	D.D.G.Master, District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER	" " District No. 2.
R.W. BENJAMIN POPE	" " District No. 3.
R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP	" " District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON	" " District No. 5.
R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS	" " District No. 7.
R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK	" " District No. 8.
R.W. GEORGE E. STACY	" " District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT	" " District No. 13.
R.W. JOHN A. LEE	" " District No. 14.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL	" " District No. 16.
W. Rev. JAMES A. BOLLES, D.D.	Grand Chaplain.
W. WILLIAM T. GRAMMER	Grand Marshal.
W. JOHN A. GOODWIN	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. E. WATERS BURE, } W. LUCIUS W. LOVELL, } W. JAMES B. PICKETT, } W. JOHN HAIGH, }	Grand Stewards.
W. SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL	Grand Standard-Bearer.
W. CHARLES KIMBALL	Grand Pursuivant.
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, } W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, } W. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, }	Grand Lecturers.
Br. EBEN F. GAY	Grand Tyler.

PERMANENT MEMBERS.

R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS	Past Grand Master.
R.W. JOHN T. HEARD	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN	" " "
R.W. CHARLES C. DAME	" " "
R.W. ABRAHAM A. DAME	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. E. M. P. WELLS, D.D.	" " " "
R.W. MARSHALL P. WILDER	" " " "
R.W. WILLIAM SUTTON	Past Grand Warden.
R.W. SAMUEL P. OLIVER	" " "
R.W. HENRY CHICKERING	" " "
R.W. ISAAC H. WRIGHT	" " "
R.W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL	" " "
R.W. BENJAMIN DEAN	" " "
R.W. WILLIAM F. SALMON	" " "

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form at six o'clock, P.M., with prayer by the Senior Grand Chaplain, W. Br. James A. Bolles.

The R.W. Past Grand Master presiding announced that M.W. A. E. Cobb, Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut, was in waiting to visit this Grand Lodge, and appointed R.W. Brothers Winslow Lewis, John T. Heard, and Isaac Hull Wright to introduce M.W. Grand Master Cobb to the Grand Lodge, where he was received with the honors due his high office.

The R.W. Past Grand Master presiding appointed R.W. Brothers John T. Heard, Winslow Lewis, Isaac H. Wright, E. M. P. Wells, and Abraham A. Dame a committee to introduce M.W. William Sewall Gardner, Grand Master elect, for installation. The committee retired with the Grand Marshal and Grand Stewards, and returned to the Grand Lodge with the Grand Master elect, who was introduced by Past Grand Master R.W. Br. John T. Heard, and installed as follows : —

MOST WORSHIPFUL, — Having been again elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, you have been pleased to designate me to perform the honorable and pleasant duty of installing you into your office.

Permit me, Most Worshipful, to congratulate you upon the entire unanimity with which, after one year's service, you have been again called to this honorable position, and upon the continuance of the confidence and esteem of your brethren throughout our jurisdiction. In the coming year, as in the past, may success attend your labors, may prosperity continue with this Grand Lodge, may harmony prevail throughout our borders, and willing hands strengthened by zeal, be ever ready to assist you in the arduous duties connected with your office.

The Grand Master elect was conducted to the altar by Past Grand Masters R. W. John T. Heard and R. W. Winslow Lewis, where a solemn prayer was offered by the W. Grand Chaplain, Rev. James A. Bolles, and where the official obligation was administered, after which he was re-conducted to the Grand East, and Past Grand Master Charles C. Dame proceeded with the installation as follows : —

I now, Most Worshipful, invest you with this badge of your office. It will silently admonish you always to do justice to the cause of Masonry ; to consult, as the exalted rank you now hold demands of you, its real interests. It will instruct you to infuse into the many Lodges of which you are now the head, the true spirit of our Order. It will direct you to make wise regulations for the good government of the Fraternity ; to give due commendation to the worthy members of it, and to rebuke those who act contrary to its laws.

I next deliver you this emblem of that power with which you are now invested. Always make use of it for the good of our beloved Institution.

To you are committed also those Sacred Writings upon our

altars, in which are to be found the sublime parts of our ancient mysteries. In them are likewise most strongly inculcated the social and moral duties, without which no man can be a Mason. You will direct your Lodges to read, to study, and obey them.

I present you the Book of Constitutions, in which are contained the rules and orders made for the good government of our Society ; and the charges which show its nature, its wisdom, and its utility. With this book, Most Worshipful, you will direct your Lodges to make themselves well acquainted,—a work in all its parts worthy the attention of men the most enlightened and judicious.

I also commit to your care and keeping this lock of hair of the immortal Washington. It is held sacred by this Grand Lodge. You will preserve it with great care, and when your term of office shall expire you will transmit it to your successor, with like instructions to be by him transmitted to his successor, that it may continue with this Grand Lodge to keep alive through all coming generations that respect and esteem which this Grand Lodge has ever manifested for him who was the friend of Masonry, of his country, and of man.

Give me leave, Most Worshipful, to conduct you to the Chair. You are again at the head of an Order which is calculated to unite men in true friendship, to extend benevolence, and to promote virtue.

Allow me, Most Worshipful, to congratulate you on the honor of being again placed in this high station of presiding over all the Lodges of this State and Jurisdiction. May the Father of Lights invest you with his choicest gifts. May heavenly wisdom illuminate your mind. May heavenly power give strength to your exertions. May heavenly goodness fill and enlarge your breast. May your feet rest upon the rock of justice,—from your hands may streams of beneficence continually issue ; and round your head may there bend a circle made splendid by the rays of honor ; and late, very late in life, may you be transmitted from the fading honors of an earthly Lodge to the mansions prepared for the faithful in a better world.

Proclamation was made from the East, West, and South, that M.W. William Sewall Gardner had been duly elected and in Ample Form installed Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, and as such would be respected by the Craft.

The Grand Marshal formed a procession of the brethren, which passed thrice around the Grand Lodge, and saluted the Grand Master with the Grand Honors.

The Grand Master installed the elected officers as follows : —

R.W. SAMUEL C. LAWRENCE, Medford . . .	Senior Grand Warden.
R.W. RICHARD BRIGGS, Brookline . . .	Junior Grand Warden.
R.W. JOHN MCCLELLAN, Boston . . .	Grand Treasurer.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON, Boston . . .	Recording Grand Secretary.

The M.W. Grand Master made the following appointments : —

R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY, Boston	Deputy Grand Master.
R.W. CHARLES W. MOORE, Boston . . .	Corresponding Grand Secretary.
R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH, Boston . . .	D.D.G. Master, District No. 1.
R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER, Chelsea . . .	" " District No. 2.
R.W. BENJAMIN POPE, South Boston . .	" " District No. 3.
R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP, Brighton . .	" " District No. 4.
R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON, Salem . . .	" " District No. 5.
R.W. JAMES E. GALE, Haverhill . . .	" " District No. 6.
R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS, Lowell . . .	" " District No. 7.
R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK, Orange . . .	" " District No. 8.
R.W. DANIEL UPTON, South Adams . .	" " District No. 9.
R.W. SAMUEL B. SPOONER, Springfield .	" " District No. 10.
R.W. CHARLES G. REED, Worcester . . .	" " District No. 11.
R.W. GEORGE E. STACY, Milford . . .	" " District No. 12.
R.W. J. MASON EVERETT, Canton . . .	" " District No. 13.
R.W. JOHN A. LEE, New Bedford . . .	" " District No. 14.
R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, Jr., Dennisport	" " District No. 15.
R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL, East Weymouth .	" " District No. 16.
R.W. GEORGE H. KENDALL, Valparaiso .	Deputy for Chili, S.A.
R.W. WILLIAM C. BLANCHARD, Shanghai	Special Deputy for China.
R.W. RICHARD H. HARTLEY, Lima . . .	Special Deputy for Peru, S.A.
W. REV. JAMES A. BOLLES, D.D., Boston,	} Grand Chaplains.
W. REV. CHARLES H. TITUS, Taunton,	
W. WILLIAM T. GRAMMER, Woburn . . .	Grand Marshal.

W. JOHN A. GOODWIN, Lowell	Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN BURNET, Fitchburg	Junior Grand Deacon.
W. LUCIUS W. LOVELL, Cambridgeport .	Senior Grand Steward.
W. JAMES P. PICKETT, Newton	Junior Grand Steward.
W. JOHN HAIGH, Lawrence	Junior Grand Steward.
W. E. WATERS BURR, Hingham	Junior Grand Steward.
W. CHARLES A. REED, Taunton	Grand Sword-Bearer.
W. LOVELL BICKNELL, East Weymouth .	Grand Standard-Bearer.
W. CHARLES KIMBALL, Lowell, }	Grand Pursuivants.
W. DANIEL NASON, Lawrence, }	
W. E. DANA BANCROFT, Groton Junction, }	Grand Lecturers.
W. CEPHAS BRIGHAM, Auburndale, }	
W. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Boston, }	
Br. HOWARD M. DOW, Boston	Grand Organist.
Br. EBEN F. GAY, Boston	Grand Tyler.
R.W. WINSLOW LEWIS, }	Committee on the Library.
R.W. CHARLES LEVI WOODBURY, }	
R.W. WENDELL T. DAVIS, }	Committee on Charity.
R.W. SOLON THORNTON, }	
R.W. WILLIAM PARKMAN, }	
W. MARLBOROUGH WILLIAMS, }	

The M.W. Grand Master installed the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Charles Levi Woodbury, and the District Deputy Grand Masters, excepting R.W. Brothers Daniel Upton, Charles G. Reed, Joseph K. Baker, Jr., George H. Kendall, William C. Blanchard, and Richard H. Hartley, who were absent, and the Deputy Grand Master installed the remainder of the appointed officers, except Rev. Br. Charles H. Titus, Junior Grand Chaplain, and Br. Howard M. Dow, Grand Organist, who were absent.

The Grand Marshal made the customary proclamation.

The M.W. Grand Master delivered the following

ADDRESS.

BRETHREN,—By the kind favor of Almighty God, we are gathered once more around our ancient altar as our predecessors have annually done for more than a century, to inaugurate a new year of masonic duty,—to induct into their stations of labor and

responsibility those officers whom the Craft have selected to preside, and to celebrate the Feast of St. John the Evangelist.

The occasion is most auspicious. The relations between the Grand Lodge and its subordinates, and between the members of the Craft universal in the jurisdiction, are most agreeable, and peace and tranquility reign throughout our borders. The great and hazardous undertaking which the Grand Lodge has assumed of building this Temple, the enormous debt incurred thereby, the burdens of distasteful taxation, have not alienated the loyalty of the Craft, nor proved an apple of discord to the Fraternity. Whatever mistakes have been made are charitably forgiven and forgotten, and with pleasure I record the fact that a spirit of true fraternal confidence, of undoubted trust, exists among the brethren and Lodges, Grand and subordinate. To inspire this confidence, and foster this trust, has been the aim of the administration during the past year, — to revive again that old spirit which formerly existed of upholding the hands of the Grand Lodge and supporting it through all its trials, discouragements, and labors. To this end the Craft has been put in possession of all the knowledge of the Grand Officers in relation to their proceedings, expenses, disbursements, and receipts; and the fullest examination into all the financial affairs of the Corporation has been invited. Your Grand Master has declined to act in every case where he had the least doubt of his constitutional powers, and in each instance where it was believed that the vote of the Grand Lodge would lend force and effect to a decision, you have been consulted. Thus, brethren, through your committees, and by your determination, nearly all the affairs of the Grand Lodge, for the last twelve months, have been conducted. The fact that our meetings have been held quarterly has enabled the Grand Master to refer to you many matters which could not have been done had we met but once a year.

During the year ending this day, I have received, signed, and transmitted to the Recording Grand Secretary 1,960 Lodge Diplomas, and 57 Past Masters' Diplomas.

I have granted the following Dispensations for new Lodges, and appointed the brothers named as Masters and Wardens : —

Rabboni, South Boston — 20 Petitioners.

RICHARD M. BARKER	Master.
RICHARD POPE	Senior Warden.
FRANCIS C. HERSEY	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted January 11, 1869.

„ returnable March, 1870.

Globe, Hinsdale — 9 Petitioners.

JOHN R. DAVISON	Master.
LEWIS M. TAYLOR	Senior Warden.
C. WESLEY GOODRICH	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted January 21, 1869.

„ returnable March, 1870.

Charity, North Cambridge — 20 Petitioners.

JAMES R. MORSE	Master.
WILLIAM H. BAILEY	Senior Warden.
D. GILBERT DEXTER	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted March 6, 1869.

„ returnable March, 1870.

Upton, Cheshire — 11 Petitioners.

E. F. NICKERSON	Master.
R. A. BURGET	Senior Warden.
RETURN M. COLE	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted March 11, 1869.

„ returnable June, 1870.

Mount Holyoke, South Hadley — 15 Petitioners.

ELISHA FISHER	Master.
EMERSON BATES JUDD	Senior Warden.
WILLIAM HARRIS	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted March 30, 1869.

„ returnable June, 1870.

Morning Sun, Conway — 15 Petitioners.

CHARLES PONSONS, JR.	Master.
THOMAS S. SHERWIN	Senior Warden.
JOHN SPRAGUE	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted March 30, 1869.

„ returnable June, 1870.

Mount Vernon, Belchertown — 18 Petitioners.

OSCAR F. MORSE	Master.
LEVI ARNOLD	Senior Warden.
J. J. TOBIAS	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted May 18, 1869.

„ returnable June, 1870.

The name of Mount Vernon was inadvertently given to this Lodge, and should be changed, as we already have one Lodge of that name on our Registry.

———, Lawrence — 15 Petitioners.

D. F. ROBINSON	Master.
G. M. STODDARD	Senior Warden.
G. R. WATERMAN	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted July 8, 1869.

„ returnable September, 1870.

The petitioners for this Lodge asked that it bear the name of the present Grand Master. I refused to have the Lodge so named, and the Dispensation was granted in blank.

Puritan, Abington — 40 Petitioners.

HENRY W. POWERS	Master.
SAMUEL N. DYER, JR.	Senior Warden.
FRANKLIN P. HARLOW	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted July 21, 1869.

„ returnable September, 1870.

Howard, South Yarmouth, — 20 Petitioners.

STEPHEN SEARS	Master.
THEOPHILUS BARRETT	Senior Warden.
WILLIAM O. G. SPRINGER	Junior Warden.

The Grand Secretary being absent, I granted this Dispensation and issued it August 16, 1869, under my private seal, and made it returnable September, 1870.

Aconcagua, Valparaiso, Chili, S.A. — 15 Petitioners.

GILBERT E. JONES	Master.
ARCHIBALD C. BROWN	Senior Warden.
JOSEPH KATZ	Junior Warden.

Dispensation granted October 28, 1869.

„ returnable March, 1871.

This Dispensation was granted in accordance with a vote of the Grand Lodge at the last September Communication, and the day of its return was so determined that the petitioners will have a full working year, exclusive of the time taken by the Dispensation *eundo et redeundo*.

Each of the petitions for the above named eleven Dispensations was countersigned by the District Deputy Grand Master within whose district the petitioners resided, and was recommended by the Lodge situated nearest to the place where the new Lodge was proposed to be located.

On the 26th of October, 1869, by virtue of the authority given me by your vote at the last September Communication, I directed Hiram Lodge at Copiapo, Chili, to be removed to the Port of Caldera by the following order, which was duly transmitted to our Deputy Grand Master for the District of Chili, South America.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

To the W. Master, Wardens, and Members of Hiram Lodge of Copiapo, Chili, South America.

"Whereas, In April, 1869, you petitioned the Most W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, United States of America, for leave to remove said Lodge from Copiapo to the Port of Caldera, which petition was favorably approved by the R.W. Br. George H. Kendall, our Deputy for Chili; and whereas, at our Grand Lodge held at Boston, on the second Wednesday of September, A.D. 1869, the prayer of said petitioners was duly considered, and it was —

"Voted, That the Grand Master authorize its removal if he shall deem such removal useful and expedient."

Now, therefore, after due consideration, deeming such removal useful and expedient, I do hereby authorize the removal of said Hiram Lodge from the City of Copiapo, in Chili, South America, to the Port of Caldera, in said Chili, and henceforth to be located there. The R.W. District Deputy Grand Master for Chili will cause a copy of these presents to be indorsed upon the charter of said Lodge, and attested by him.

Given at Boston, Massachusetts, this 26th day of October, A.D. 1869.

WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, *Grand Master.*

[SEAL.]

Attest my hand and seal of our Grand Lodge.

SOLOM THORNTON,

Recording Grand Secretary.

I have called special meetings of the Grand Lodge as follows, and I have caused them to be entered upon the Records: —

At Somerville, on the 18th of March last, for the purpose of dedicating the new hall of John Abbott Lodge;

At Charlestown, on the 30th of June last, for the purpose of constituting Faith Lodge, and installing its officers;

At Weymouth, on the 2d of July last, for the purpose of constituting Delta Lodge, and installing its officers ;

At Natick, on the 16th of November last, for the purpose of dedicating the new hall of Meridian Lodge ;

At Malden, on the 22d of this December, for the purpose of constituting Palestine Lodge, and installing its officers.

On the 14th of this December I issued a special warrant to R.W. Past Grand Master Charles C. Dame, authorizing him to constitute Bethany Lodge at Amesbury, install its officers, and dedicate its hall.

This commission * was granted by virtue of Section 4, Article 2, Part 3d of our Constitutions, and R.W. Br. Dame has kindly consented to perform the duty.

At the annual installation, one year ago, R.W. Br. David W. Crafts and W. Br. E. Dana Bancroft were not present. I thereupon issued special powers to the W. Master of Jerusalem Lodge, at Northampton, to install Br. Crafts into his office of D.D. Grand Master, and to R.W. Br. Henry P. Perkins, D.D.G.M., to install Br. Bancroft into his office of Senior Grand Lecturer. I received returns of the full performance of these duties in each instance.

At the request of the M.W. Amos E. Cobb, Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut, I granted permission to

Lodge, under his jurisdiction, to confer the degrees upon
of Northampton, in this State, Jerusalem
Lodge having yielded jurisdiction in a constitutional manner. I have received several applications from subordinate Lodges of sister jurisdictions for permission to confer the degrees upon residents of Massachusetts, but have invariably refused so to do, except upon the written application of the Grand Master of the State under whose jurisdiction the Lodge asking the request was situated.

I have been disinclined to interfere in any manner with the

* This commission has been returned, and is set out at the end of this address.

Lodges of other jurisdictions, and I should take it for granted that a Grand Master making such a request had previously satisfied himself of its propriety, and in complying therewith I should throw the responsibility upon him. I am happy to state that in all ordinary cases such request would be unhesitatingly and courteously complied with.

I have granted Dispensations to several Lodges to elect officers, where they had failed so to do, at the annual elections.

I have made numerous decisions during the year, but I do not consider it to be a part of my duty to report them, unless requested so to do.

I have been requested to present for your consideration and determination the following decision : —

If a candidate is accepted by a clear ballot, and a brother afterwards objects to his advancement, what course is to be pursued?

I have decided that, if the candidate was regularly accepted by a clear ballot, in a Lodge where notices were sent to the members with the name of the candidate upon the notices, or in a Lodge where no notices are sent, but where the ballot was at a regular meeting, that no new ballot can be had.

That if a brother objects, the W. Master has the right to refuse to confer the degrees.

If the Master does not so decide, it is his duty — under Section 7, Article 3, Part 4 of our Constitutions, which provides that “ Every member of a subordinate Lodge may object to the initiation, passing, or raising of a candidate at any time before the degree is conferred ; and it shall be the duty of the Lodge to investigate such objections before proceeding with the candidate,” — to appoint a committee to consider the objections, and to report thereon to the Lodge, and that the Lodge is to decide by a majority vote of the sufficiency of the objections. That the ballot once fairly and regularly taken, by which the candidate is accepted, cannot be repeated, unless the Lodge, by vote, decide so to do.

Such I understand to have been the rule practically adopted by this Grand Lodge.

I desire to testify to the faithfulness of the D.D. Grand Masters in their arduous duties, and to return them my sincere thanks for the great assistance they have rendered the Grand Master in the discharge of the arduous duties of his office.

I have endeavored to carry out the intent of my inaugural address made one year ago, that "To the Board of District Deputy Grand Masters I shall look to perform much of the labor which of late years has found its way into this office. In their several districts it is expected that they will be Deputy Grand Masters *de facto* as well as *de jure*."

I have striven to strengthen them in their official stations, and to dignify their office. To this end I have refused to grant Dispersations for conferring the degrees to any of the Lodges, and have declined to interfere with their administration of affairs except upon appeal. The Deputies have made full and most complete returns to me of all their doings, and these reports have gone into the hands of your committee for consideration. I append hereto such portions of these interesting reports as it is usual to print with our proceedings, as also the reports of the doings of the Grand Lecturers.

The D.D. Grand Masters of Districts No. 1 and No. 3 decline to present any bill for expenses during the last year.

To the Grand Wardens who have now retired from the West and South to permanent seats in the Grand East, among the revered and venerable who compose the Senate of our Grand Lodge, I am especially grateful for their obedience to every summons of the Grand Master, and for their aid and assistance on every needful occasion; and to the other Grand Officers, most of whom still remain to adorn their stations during another year, I return my thanks for their uniform courtesy, and for their faithful services to the Grand Lodge.

The feast which we this day celebrate derives additional attraction from the fact that it is the centennial of the inauguration of the so-called "Massachusetts Grand Lodge." In 1717, the London

Grand Lodge was established under the title of "Grand Lodge of England." It proved to be a cause of great dissension among the English Masons; so much so that, about the year 1738, an open revolt against its authority broke out, which resulted in another Grand Lodge, which assumed the name of "Ancient Masons," and "Ancient York Masons," and gave to the members of the London Grand Lodge the title of "Modern Masons." These dissensions spread to Scotland, Ireland, and to the Colonies of Great Britain. In 1733, the London Grand Lodge commissioned Henry Price, Grand Master of Masons in North America, and under this authority Lodges were chartered in Massachusetts, the East of the Provincial Grand Lodge being here at Boston. This Grand Body acquired strength and influence, and conducted its affairs with great pomp and parade. Its officers and members were, many of them, men of dignity and character in the Province, and in the management of the affairs of the Grand Lodge they exhibited much of that exclusiveness which existed in the civil government.

Prior to 1756, the schism which originated in England had spread to this Province. Some persons who had applied to the regular Lodges in Boston, and who had been rejected, obtained their degrees in the Lodges of Ancient Masons attached to the Royal Regiments stationed here, or were made Masons after the ancient system in some irregular way, and attempted afterwards to visit the Boston Lodges, but were denied admission. They, as well as others who had not been rejected, but who were Ancient Masons, and had also been driven from the doors of the Lodges, feeling aggrieved at the course pursued by the Grand Lodge towards them, petitioned the Grand Lodge of Scotland for a charter to hold a Lodge under its auspices in Boston. This request was granted, and November 13, 1756, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 82, was chartered, under which the brethren commenced their labors.

Immediately after its organization, the members of Saint Andrew's attempted to place themselves on friendly terms with the

brethren of the Grand and subordinate Lodges then existing here. The records show that an extensive correspondence between Saint Andrew's and the Grand Lodge took place, and that the latter refused to recognize the members of the former as Masons.

Under the Grand Mastership of Jeremy Gridley, the Grand Lodge passed a vote forbidding the Lodges under its jurisdiction, upon any consideration, to admit the visits of any of the members of Saint Andrew's Lodge. In January, 1766, Saint Andrew's raised a committee, of which Joseph Warren was a member, to wait on the Grand Lodge the following Friday night with a complimentary address, desiring them to visit Saint Andrew's whenever they may think proper, "and that for the future there may be a happy coalition."

This committee visited the Grand Lodge and received an answer in writing, which, when reported to Saint Andrew's, was declared to be "by no means satisfactory, as it is ill-grounded."

The same committee were directed to prepare an address, in answer to the Grand Lodge, and in June, 1766, a committee, of which Joseph Warren was chairman, was raised to transmit all that had passed between Saint Andrew's and the Grand Lodge in Boston to the Grand Master of Scotland.

In September, 1767, was announced in the Grand Lodge the decease of "M.W. Jeremy Gridley, Esq., Grand Master of Masons over all North America, Attorney General for the Province of Massachusetts Bay, a member of the Great and General Court of said Province, and a Justice throughout the same, Colonel of the First Regiment of Militia, and President of the Marine Society," &c.

At this meeting, says the record, "Mr. Joseph Webb, Mr. Samuel Barrett, and Doctor Joseph Warren, a committee from Saint Andrew's Lodge, waiting below, sent up word that they desired to be admitted into the Lodge to present a message from said Saint Andrew's Lodge."

It was voted unanimously to admit them. "When they came up, they informed the Deputy Grand Master that it was the

Lodge's desire that they may attend the Grand Master's funeral as Masons."

The Grand Lodge unanimously granted their request. In the order of the funeral procession, which is most carefully set out in the Grand Lodge records, after the officers of the "Grand Master's Regiment, and members of the Marine Society," came —

"The Tyler of Saint Andrew's Lodge with the sword."

"The Stewards of said Lodge with their wands."

"The members of said Lodge, two by two, all properly clothed."

After which came the subordinate Lodges and the Grand Lodge.

The Deputy Grand Master, Rowe, required of the Master of Saint Andrew's a list of the members and others who joined with them, and ordered it to be entered in the Grand Lodge Book, which was done. The whole number in attendance was sixty-four, Joseph Warren being Senior Warden.

The brethren of Saint Andrew's had performed their duty in a noble and fraternal manner, and the Grand Lodge, in the hour of its deep distress over the lifeless remains of its distinguished Grand Master, forgot for the moment its animosity, and they mingled their tears together.

The Deputy Grand Master, John Rowe, had probably encouraged the Brethren of Saint Andrew's in the step they took. He had contributed generously to the fund of charity of Saint Andrew's, and December 1, 1766, was unanimously made a member of the Lodge, and a committee was appointed to communicate to him the votes passed.

After every generous effort on the part of Saint Andrew's had completely failed, and when it was evident that no "happy coalition" could be made, the brethren changed their ground. Saint Andrew's was composed of some of the most active, prominent, and distinguished men of Boston; men who, like Warren, Revere, Hancock, and others of illustrious name, young, ardent, brave, could not calmly and patiently permit themselves and their associates to be denounced as illegitimate, clandestine Masons, and imposters.

The spirit of manliness, as well as of patriotism, glowed in their bosoms, and prompted them to vindicate their own characters as Masons, and to stand forth in defence of the Lodge which made them. On Saint Andrew's Day, 1767 (Nov. 30), they voted unanimously, —

"Whereas, The Grand Lodge holden in Boston, whereof the late Jeremy Gridley was Grand Master, passed a vote that the Master or Masters of the Lodge or Lodges under his jurisdiction, more especially in Boston, should not, on any condition, admit of the visits of any of the members of Saint Andrew's Lodge, which vote is disadvantageous to this Lodge, inasmuch as divers gentlemen here have been thereby prevented from offering themselves to be made here; "

"Therefore, Voted, That this Lodge will not from henceforth admit of the visits of the members of any of the Lodges in this town, or any person that shall be made therein, until the said vote of said Grand Lodge shall be reconsidered and made void, except they are members of this Lodge, or have been raised Master here."

The following year, 1768, the Lodge voted in December to keep the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist, and "that none vulgarly called Modern Masons be admitted to the Feast."

The political affairs of the Province of Massachusetts were such in 1768 that the Crown determined to quarter a standing army upon Boston. About the 1st of October in that year, a fleet of British men-of-war arrived in the harbor, having on board the Fourteenth and Twenty-Ninth, and a portion of the Fifty-Ninth Regiments, with a train of artillery; and a short time after, the Sixty-Fourth and Sixty-Fifth Regiments, direct from Ireland, landed in town and garrisoned Boston.

In the Sixty-Fourth Regiment was the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 106, Registry of Scotland; in the Fourteenth Regiment was Lodge No. 58, Registry of England; and in the Twenty-Ninth Regiment was Lodge No. 322, Registry of Ireland, all working under the "Ancient System."

The presence of these regiments in Boston created an intense excitement among the citizens, and the members of Saint Andrew's, particularly Joseph Warren, participated in the universal feeling of opposition to the continuance of this strong force in

Boston. Warren was member of a committee which, in March, 1769, drew up a petition to the king for the removal of the troops. Notwithstanding this strong feeling in the community, the members of Saint Andrew's saw the opportunity before them of forming a Grand Lodge under the authority of the Grand Master of Scotland, and did not scruple to join with their brethren of the obnoxious regiments.

On Saint Andrew's Day (Nov. 30), 1768, Joseph Warren being Master, the Lodge appointed a committee to consider the expediency of applying to the Grand Lodge of Scotland for a Grand Master of Ancient Masons in America, and to confer with such committees as "shall be appointed by the other Ancient Lodges now in town." The committee was composed of Joseph Warren, Moses Deshon, William Burbank, Ezra Collings, William Collings, William Palfrey, Paul Revere, and Samuel Danforth.

At the same meeting, the Lodge granted the use of their hall to the Regimental Lodges in the Twenty-Ninth and Sixty-Fourth Regiments.

Early in December following, eight days after the committee was empowered, they reported that agreeable to appointment with the committees of the Ancient Lodges then in Boston, and after mature deliberation, they agreed that it was necessary to have a Grand Master of Ancient Masons in America. They proposed as officers of the Grand Lodge: Br. Joseph Warren, of Saint Andrew's Lodge, No. 82, for Grand Master; Br. Jeremiah French, of the jurisdiction of Ireland, No. 322, for a Grand Senior Warden, and Br. Thomas Musgrave, of the Duke of York's Lodge, No. 106, for Junior Grand Warden.

The Lodge adopted the report of the committee, and the petition was prepared accordingly, being signed by the four Lodges of Ancient Masons: "Saint Andrew's, 82, Registry of Scotland;" "Duke of York's, 106, Registry of Scotland, held in 64th Regiment of Foot;" "Lodge No. 58, Registry of England, held in 14th Regiment;" "Lodge No. 322, Registry of Ireland, held in 29th Regi-

ment;" "An. F. & Ac. Masons, resident in Boston, Mass." Thus executed, it was forthwith transmitted to Scotland.

Before an answer was returned, in June, 1769, the Sixty-Fourth and Sixty-Ninth Regiments were removed from Boston.

On the 30th of May, 1769, the Earl of Dalhousie, Grand Master of Masons in Scotland, appointed "Joseph Warren, Esq., Grand Master of Masons in Boston, New England, and within one hundred miles of the same," and sent the commission by Captain Lawrence Fraizer to Warren.

It was received in Boston prior to September 19, 1769, for on that evening Saint Andrew's voted to provide the necessary articles to be used by the Grand Lodge, and "that the Grand Master be installed on the 27th of December next."

Little notice was taken of the Regimental Lodges in the preparation of the installation by Saint Andrew's. The only notice of them appears in the proceedings of the Lodge held December 14, 1769, at which meeting Warren was present, when the committee appointed to conduct the instalment reported "That it is their opinion that an information be given to the Lodge in 14th Regiment and 29th, that the instalment of a Grand Master will be on Wednesday, the 27th, at Masons' Hall."

On the 27th of December, 1769, the Grand Lodge was formally inaugurated, the record of which is in full as follows:—

"At the Assembly and Feast held at Boston, New England, at Masons' Hall, on Wednesday, December 27, 1769—

PRESENT,

The Most Worshipful JOSEPH WARREN, Esq., Grand Master elect.

The Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Saint Andrew's Lodge.

The Master and Wardens of Lodge No. 58, of the Registry of England.

The Master and Wardens of Lodge No. 322, of the Registry of Ireland.

A commission from the Right Honorable and Most Worshipful George, Earl of Dalhousie, Grand Master of Masons in Scotland, bearing date the 18th day of May, A.L. 5769, appointing the Most Worshipful Joseph Warren, Esq., to be Grand Master of Masons in Boston, New England, and within one hundred miles of the same, was read.

The brethren then proceeded in ample form to install the Most Worshipful Joseph Warren Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in Boston, &c.

After which the following Brethren were nominated by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and unanimously elected as Grand Officers for the year ensuing, viz. :—

JEREMIAH FRENCH, Esq., Capt. in 29th Regt.	Senior Grand Warden.
PONSONBY MOLESWORTH, Esq., „ „	Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM PALFREY, (by Proxy)	Grand Secretary.
THOMAS CRAFTS	Grand Treasurer.
JOSEPH WEBB	Grand Marshal.
PAUL REVERE	Senior Grand Deacon.
SAMUEL DANFORTH	Junior Grand Deacon.
THOMAS URANN, }	Grand Stewards.
CALEB HOPKINS, }	
EDWARD PROCTOR	Grand Sword-Bearer."

The above is the full recorded history of this first meeting of "The Grand Lodge," as it was then called, for it did not take the name of "Massachusetts Grand Lodge" until December 6, 1782.

The records of Saint Andrew's devote a page to this important meeting, stating that the Feast was holden, and giving the name of each brother who attended. By this it appears that sixty-two were present.

The *Boston Gazette* of January 1, 1770, a weekly paper published by Edes and Gill, contained this notice :—

"By virtue of a commission lately received from the Right Honorable and Most Worshipful the Earl of Dalhousie, Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in Scotland, on Wednesday was solemnized at a Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in this town, held at Masons' Hall, the instalment of the Most Worshipful Joseph Warren, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in North America. On the occasion there was an elegant oration. After the instalment there was a grand entertainment."

Although little credit can be given to newspaper notices of masonic meetings, yet in this instance, as the publishers of the *Gazette* were strong political friends of Warren, it is more than probable that they were correct in stating that an oration was delivered. If so, Warren, who afterwards distinguished himself as an orator, undoubtedly pronounced the oration.

On the same day that the "Massachusetts Grand Lodge" was organized at the Green Dragon Tavern, forty brethren of the

Saint John's Grand Lodge celebrated the Feast at the Bunch of Grapes Tavern, John Rowe presiding as Grand Master.

Joseph Warren, who was thus installed Grand Master one hundred years ago, at this Feast of St. John the Evangelist, was born at Roxbury, Massachusetts, June 11, 1741. At the age of fourteen he entered Harvard College, and was there graduated in 1759, aged nineteen. He was proposed to Saint Andrew's Lodge by Br. William Palfrey, September 10, 1761, and was then initiated, being twenty years and three months old. On the 2d of the following November, he was "passed a Fellow Craft." It is uncertain at what time he was made a Master Mason, but on the 14th of November, 1765, the Lodge voted unanimously that Dr. Joseph Warren be re-admitted a member of the Lodge. After this time he appears to have been zealous and active in his masonic labors. He was chosen Senior Warden in November, 1766, and served his year, and was Master of Saint Andrew's from November, 1768, to November, 1769.

During his Grand Mastership there were thirty-seven meetings of the Grand Lodge, thirty-four of which he attended and presided over.

From the time of his first installation until the last quarterly meeting held during his life, he was engaged in public affairs of the greatest importance. His practice as a physician was very large; he was a member of various political clubs; was of the Committee of Safety of Boston, and of the same Committee of Massachusetts, a member of the Committee on Correspondence, and was a representative to the Provincial Congress, and at the time of his death its presiding officer. His correspondence with public men, not only in Massachusetts but in all the colonies, was voluminous, and yet he found time amid all these cares, perplexities, and labors, to earnestly attend to his duties as Grand Master.

On the 26th of April, 1773, he lost his beloved wife, but the following week found him at the Grand Lodge, called "upon an especial occasion."

I have compared the dates of many of the meetings of the Grand Lodge, when he was present, with the well-known public services of Warren, and it is surprising that he was able to devote any time to his Grand Master's duties.

On the 5th of March, 1773, the annual commemoration of the Massacre was held. Dr. Church delivered the oration, and Warren was on the committee that matured the business. Yet he found time to attend the Grand Lodge that day, and the record reads that "the Grand Master was pleased to adjourn this Grand Lodge to Monday, the 8th instant."

June 4th, of the same year, the record states: "The Grand Lodge being opened, the Grand Master observing but few Grand Officers present, was acquainted of their necessary engagement in another society."

Warren was absent from three meetings of the Grand Lodge — June 16, 1773; June 8, 1774; and September 2, 1774.

It is uncertain what detained him from the meeting of June 16, 1773; but June 2, 1774, he was engaged on a committee to draft "a solemn League and Covenant," as also upon other important committees, and at the same time he was writing vigorous articles for the *Gazette*.

On the 2d of September, 1774, he was absent for the last time. This was the occasion of the "Powder alarm." The day before, he was called to Cambridge to prevent a collision with the troops, spent the day there, and the next day, the 2d, was engaged with a committee in corresponding with the towns.

His last attendance at the Grand Lodge was March 3, 1775. On the 6th, which was Monday, he delivered his famous oration upon the anniversary of the Massacre, and his mind must necessarily have been preoccupied with the great subject upon which he was to speak, and of the personal danger to himself which he was thereby incurring. Notwithstanding, he was at his post of duty, and for the last time presided over the Craft.

The following entry is made at the end of the record of this meeting: —

"Mema. 19th April, 1775. Hostility commenced between the troops of Great Britain and America in Lexington Battle. In consequence of which the Town was blockaded, and no Lodge held until December, 1776."

On the 17th of June following, Warren breathed out his heroic spirit on Charlestown Heights, and the Grand Lodge was left without a Grand Master.

At the meeting held on the 6th of December, 1771, the Grand Master acquainted the Grand Lodge that he appointed R. Worshipful Joseph Webb Deputy Grand Master, and on the 27th of the same month he was installed into office.

At the Feast held December 27, 1773, was read a communication from the Right Honorable and Most Worshipful Earl of Dumfries, Grand Master of M^asons in Scotland, dated March 3, 1772, appointing the Most Worshipful Joseph Warren, Grand Master of Masons for the Continent of America. The Grand Master was in ample form installed.

"Then the Most Worshipful Grand Master, by virtue of the authority granted him in the foregoing commission, ordered the Grand Secretary to read a commission dated at Boston, New England, 1778, appointing Joseph Webb, Esq., D.G. Master, under him the said Joseph Warren, Esq., Grand Master, who was accordingly installed."

Although the record states that the Grand Lodge did not assemble until December, 1776, yet the Deputy Grand Master convened the Grand Body and held one of the most interesting and important meetings in the history of the "Massachusetts Grand Lodge" before that date.

After Warren was shot, it is uncertain by whom he was buried. The *Gazette*, published at Watertown, June 26, 1775, says: "Warren was among the slain, and was buried by his friends at Charlestown." All accounts concur in this, that his body was recognized and that he was buried on the field.

March 17, 1776, the British troops evacuated Boston, but it was not until the 4th of April following that his body was found and identified. It was buried about three feet below the surface of the ground, and was much disfigured, but was identified by two artificial teeth set for him a few days before his death.

On the same day that his body was discovered, the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts accepted the report of a committee appointed to take under consideration the erecting a monument to the memory of the "Honorable Major-General Joseph Warren," in which the committee say they "find that the place where his body was buried is discovered, and that the Lodge of Freemasons in this Colony, whereof he was late Grand Master, are desirous of taking up the deceased's remains, and, in the usual funeral solemnities of that society, to decently inter the same, and that, his friends are consenting thereto." The committee "are of opinion that the said Lodge have leave to put their said intentions into execution."

The next day, April 5, the Deputy Grand Master, Joseph Webb, wrote to Br. Perez Morton, at Watertown, then a member of the Provincial Congress, and who was also a member of Saint Andrew's Lodge, and an intimate personal friend of Warren, saying that he was requested by the brethren of the Grand Lodge to beg the favor of him "to pronounce an oration on Monday next at the re-interment of our late Grand Master, Joseph Warren, Esq. The next day, April 6, "Brother Morton" replied by letter, modestly accepting the task assigned him.

In the *Gazette* of April 8, 1776, was published the following notice : —

"Notice is hereby given to all the Brethren of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons that this day will be re-interred the remains of the late Most Worshipful Joseph Warren, Esq, Grand Master of Ancient Masonry for North America, who was slain in the Battle on Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1776.

"The Procession will be from the State House, in Boston, at four o'clock, P. M., at which time the Brethren are requested to attend with their Clothing and Jewels. By order of the Right Worshipful Joseph Webb, Esquire, Deputy Grand Master.

WILLIAM HOSKINS, *Grand Secretary.*"

The *New England Chronicle*, of Boston, published that week, contains a description of the procession, which was composed of a detachment of the Continental forces ; a numerous body of the Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, the mourners ;

members of the two houses of the General Assembly, &c., &c. The body was carried to King's Chapel, where, after prayer by the Rev. Dr. Cooper, Br. Perez Morton delivered the oration, from which I take the following extract :—

"Into this Fraternity he was early initiated, and after having given repeated proofs of a rapid proficiency in the arts, and after evidencing by his life the profession of his lips, finally, as the reward of his merit, he was commissioned the Most Worshipful Grand Master of all the Ancient Masons through North America ; and you, Brethren, are living testimonies with how much honor to himself and benefit to the Craft universal, he discharged the duties of his elevated trust ; with what sweetened accents he courted your attention, while with *wisdom, strength, and beauty*, he instructed his Lodges in the secret arts of *Freemasonry* ; what perfect order and decorum he preserved in the government of them ; and in all his conduct what a bright example he set us, to *live within compass and act upon the square*. With what pleasure did he silence the wants of poor and penniless Brethren ; yea, the necessitous everywhere, though ignorant of the mysteries of the Craft, from his benefactions, felt the happy effects of that Institution which is founded on *Faith, Hope, and Charity*, and the world may cease to wonder that he so readily offered up his life, on the altar of his country, when they are told that the main pillar of *Masonry* is the *love of mankind*.

"The fates, as if they would reveal, in the person of our *Grand Master*, those mysteries which have so long lay hid from the world, have suffered him, like the great master builder in the temple of old, to fall by the hands of ruffians, and be again raised in honor and authority. We searched in the field for the murdered son of a widow,* and we found him *by the turf and the twig*, buried under the brow of a hill, though not in a decent grave. And though we must again commit his body to the tomb, yet our breasts shall be the burying spot of his masonic virtues, and there—

" ' An adamantine monument we 'll rear
With this inscription, "*Masonry*" lies here.' "

This beautiful and touching allusion by the eulogist must have deeply impressed the brethren whom he addressed. No higher praise can be awarded to it than this, that every masonic writer who, since that time, has alluded to the death of Warren, has copied the idea, if not the exact language, of the distinguished Mortou in his oration ; and it is to be regretted that the name of Morton has never been connected with it.

Governor Gore, in an oration delivered in 1788, says : " The

* The day before his death he parted from his widowed mother at Boston, and said to her that they would never meet again.

rosemary and cassia adorned and discovered his hallowed grave."

And Josiah Bartlett, Esq., afterwards our Grand Master, in an address delivered Saint John Baptist Day, 1790, which is recorded at length in the records of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, remarks : —

"The political events of the year 5775 produced important changes in the state of Masonry. These were no other than the heroic death of the Grand Master on the celebrated heights of Charlestown, and a temporary dispersion of the Grand Officers who, soon after the evacuation of Boston by the British army on the following year, influenced by a pious regard to the merits and memory of their departed patron, were induced to make search for his body, which was rudely and indiscriminately buried on the field of slaughter.

"They accordingly repaired to the brow of the hill, and by the direction of a person who had been on the ground about the time of his burial, a spot was found where the earth had been recently turned up, and was distinguished by a small cluster of sprigs.

"Having removed the turf and opened the grave, the remains were easily ascertained,* and being decently raised, were conveyed to the State House, in this metropolis, whence, on the 8th of April, 5776, after every mark of respect, and the just tribute of patriotick and affectionate applause, they were committed to the silent tomb; but as the whole earth is the sepulchre of illustrious men, his fame, his glorious actions, are deposited in universal remembrance, and will be transmitted to the latest ages."

After the oration in King's Chapel, the procession was re-formed and proceeded to the Grauary Burying Ground, on Tremont Street, where the remains of Grand Master Warren, agreeably to the solemn ceremony of Freemasonry, and in all probability according to a ritual which, before this time, Saint Andrew's Lodge had perfected, were re-interred in the tomb of George Richard Minot, a friend of the family. There they laid in peaceful repose until 1825, when, says Frothingham, "they were identified by the nephew of the General, Dr. John C. Warren, by the eye-tooth, and the mark of the fatal bullet behind the left ear." They were then carefully placed in a box of hard wood, bearing a silver plate with the inscription "In this tomb are deposited the earthly remains of Major-General Joseph Warren, who was killed in the battle of Bunker Hill, on June 17,

* "By means of an artificial tooth."

1775," and were removed to the Warren Tomb, in Saint Paul's Church, Boston. August 3, 1855, these precious ashes were carefully deposited in an imperishable urn, and placed in the family vault at Forest Hills Cemetery, where they now repose.

After the re-interment in the Granary Burying Ground, the procession reformed, and the Grand Lodge returned to the State House. The following record was made up, and was printed with the oration of Morton:—

"COUNCIL CHAMBER, BOSTON, April 8, 1776.

"At a meeting of the Grand Lodge, and a numerous body of Free and Accepted Masons, after the re-interment of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Joseph Warren, Esq., who was slain in the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775,

"In the chair, the Right Worshipful Joseph Webb, D.G.M.,

"Voted, That our Brothers, Paul Revere, Edward Proctor, and Stephen Bruce be a committee to wait on our Brother Perez Morton, Esq., and present our cordial thanks for his oration delivered this afternoon, and request a copy thereof for the press.

Attest,

WILLIAM HOSKINS, *Grand Secretary.*"

During the Grand Mastership of Warren, three charters for Lodges were granted, viz.: March 2, 1770, Tyrian Lodge at Gloucester; May 13, 1770, Massachusetts Lodge at Boston; March 6, 1772, Saint Peter's Lodge at Newburyport.

With the exception of Saint Peter's, these Lodges are now in flourishing existence, and with their mother, Saint Andrew's, are here this evening to participate in the centennial of the Grand Lodge, whose subordinates they were, and still are.

At the fourth meeting of the Grand Lodge, held May 11, 1770, it was—

"Voted, Unanimously, as the opinion of this Lodge, that whenever summons are issued for convening a Grand Lodge, and in consequence thereof is congregated, the same is to all intents and purposes a legal Grand Lodge, however few in number, and as such may, with the strictest propriety, proceed to business."

The doctrine contained in this vote, as I understand, is peculiar to Massachusetts, and has been substantially followed as regards a quorum from that day to this. Other Grand Lodges require the

presence of the representatives of a certain number of its subordinates to constitute a quorum, while Massachusetts and the Grand Lodges of the other New England States, are not restricted by any such rule.

There are many interesting matters in the Records of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge which I should be pleased to refer to, did time permit, especially the history of its independence. This was the first Grand Lodge upon the continent which declared its independence of all other Grand Lodges, and which followed the destiny of its country at a time when even this humble support was most gratefully received by every patriotic heart.

At some other time I may trace its history through succeeding years down to March, 1792, when the Massachusetts Grand Lodge and Saint John's Grand Lodge mingled together in fraternal union, and buried forever in the peaceful waters of oblivion the animosities of nearly half a century. In that union disappeared forever the name of Modern Masons, but there was reserved that other name, "ANCIENT" as well as "Honorable," which was dear to the brethren of Saint Andrew's and their associates, and which we are still proud to retain in our title.

BRETHREN,— We stop for a moment in the busy turmoil of life to contemplate him whom the Craft, one hundred years ago, saluted as their Grand Master. We view him during all those trying scenes through which he passed, until he offered up his life upon the altar of Patriotism, and was consigned by loving hands to the silent tomb. We again open the grave of our lamented Grand Master, and over his mangled remains drop the fraternal tear of affection, and again plant there the acacia, fit emblem of his earthly immortality.

When the centennial again comes round upon the dial of time, his fame will be as world-wide as now, and the Craft, as they gather to celebrate the Feast, and pay their homage to the memory of Warren, may turn to the record of this Festival, and read that the magic spell of his influence was upon us, and that the

“young, brave, blooming, generous, self-devoted martyr” awakened in our breasts the purifying emotions of tenderness and admiration.

GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

To the Craft throughout our jurisdiction,

GREETING:

Know ye, That, reposing especial confidence in the integrity and ability of our Right Worshipful Past Grand Master, Charles C. Dame, I do, by these presents, nominate, constitute, and appoint him my Proxy, for me, and in my name, as Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, to summon together the officers elect and others the members of Bethany Lodge named in the Charter granted by our Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication held on the eighth day of the current month, at their Lodge room in West Amesbury, at such time as he may direct, and then and there in Ample Form to constitute said Lodge, install the officers thereof, and dedicate the Hall of said Lodge, according to the ancient ritual and usages of the Craft, and of our Grand Lodge, making due return to me of his proceedings in the premises.

Given at Boston this fifteenth day of December, A.D. eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, and A.L. five thousand eight hundred and sixty nine.

WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER,

Grand Master.

[SEAL]

Attest my hand and the seal of our Grand Lodge.

SOLOM THORNTON,

Grand Secretary.

Most Worshipful WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that, under the authority of the foregoing Commission, I summoned together the officers elect and others the members of Bethany Lodge, named in the Charter granted by our Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication held on the eighth day of December, A.D. 1869, at their Lodge room in West Amesbury, on the thirtieth day of December, A.D. 1869, and then and there, in Ample Form, I constituted said Lodge and installed the officers thereof, and dedicated the Hall of said Lodge, according to the ancient ritual and usages of the Craft and of our Grand Lodge.

I am, very respectfully and fraternally,

CHARLES C. DAME.

NEWBURYPORT, December 31, 1869.

The following communication from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was received and referred to the Corresponding Grand Secretary, R. W. Br. Charles W. Moore:—

MANCHESTER, N.H., December 28, 1869.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Esq., *M. W. Grand Master of Freemasons in Massachusetts, Masonic Temple.*

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in grand communication assembled, to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, in grand communication assembled, greeting : —

May this one hundredth (100) anniversary of the Installation of General Joseph Warren as Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in New England be but one of many a long series of similar celebrations which shall perpetuate the name and memory of one of the most noble and zealous patriots and earliest martyrs in the great cause of American Independence, and one whose fame is equally dear to every true patriot and faithful Mason.

HORACE C. CHASE,
Grand Secretary.

The following response was made to the above communication : —

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire,
In reciprocation of its fraternal sentiment, sends greeting : —

The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, — Associated with that of our Warren, in heaven's arch registry of masonic patriots, are the memories of her Sullivan and Stark.

CHAS. W. MOORE,
Corresponding Grand Secretary.

Boston, Dec. 28, 1869

R.W. Br. Charles R. Train, chairman of the committee to whom was referred the complaint of Br. Edward G. Russell against Mount Olivet Lodge, made the following report, which was accepted : —

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Edward G. Russell, covering a complaint against Mount Olivet Lodge, have attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully report —

That the parties have adjusted their differences, and desire no further action on the part of the Grand Lodge.

Your committee therefore report that the memorialist have leave to withdraw his memorial.

For the Committee.

CHAS. R. TRAIN,

Chairman.

December 27, 1869.

The following report of R.W. Br. Tracy P Cheever was referred to R.W. Br. Charles R. Train, W. Br. Henry Endicott, and W. Br. George H. Conn : —

To M.W. WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In respect to the case of A. B., I have the honor to report the following facts, which are all that seem to be material for the determination of the question involved : A. B., who formerly resided in Somerville, in this Commonwealth, made an application for the degrees in Masonry to John Abbot Lodge of that town. His application was rejected. Afterwards he renewed his application ; a second ballot was taken and he was again rejected. He then removed to Charlestown, where he still resides, and applied to Henry Price Lodge for the degrees, but his application was also rejected in that Lodge. In both Lodges, so far as I can learn, he was rejected for *cause*. After his rejection in Henry Price Lodge, he procured a paper, of which the following is a copy : —

Permission is hereby granted to Carroll Lodge of Freedom, N.H., to confer the first three degrees in Masonry upon A. B., he being found worthy.

CHARLESTOWN, Aug. 30, 1869.

(Signed)

GIDEON HAYNES, W.M.
FRANCIS CHILDS, S.W.
CHAS. A. WINSLOW, Sec.
S. M. NESMITH.
MARTIN HAYWARD.

[SEAL]

With this document A. B. proceeded to Carroll Lodge, in Freedom, N.H., where he made an application for the degrees, and was accepted. A dispensation to confer the second and third degrees at one time upon him was procured by the Master of Carroll Lodge from the District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixth District of New Hampshire, by the presentation of the above-men-

tioned document, and also of a paper of which the following is a copy : —

We hereby certify on our honor as Masons that S. C. Gardner, of Newton, Massachusetts, Grand Master of Masons in that jurisdiction, gave his consent for A. B., of Charlestown, to take the three first degrees of Masonry in Carroll Lodge, Freedom, N.H.

(Signed)

JOHN CARLISLE.
CYRUS FOWLER.

The consent of the Grand Master of this Commonwealth was in fact never given. Certain friends of A. B. called upon the Grand Master for his permission, and were informed that if requested by the Grand Master of New Hampshire, he should probably, out of comity, grant the request. The request was never made, and consequently there was no opportunity or occasion to grant it.

Under these circumstances, A. B. received his degrees in Carroll Lodge, New Hampshire. Upon returning to Charlestown, he attempted to visit Faith Lodge, in that city, but was refused admission by the order of W. Br. W. H. Kent, then Master of the Lodge. A complaint has since been made to the Grand Master, in the investigation of which the foregoing facts have been developed.

Upon these facts, no doubt can be entertained concerning the status of A. B. as a Mason in this Commonwealth. The manner in which the degrees were conferred and procured was irregular and illegal, yet it is within the province of the Grand Lodge by its vote to cure the irregularity, by a formal healing, if it should deem the case worthy of such action. But inasmuch as I have been requested to make a recommendation in this case, I feel obliged regretfully to say that, from the ascertained facts, I cannot regard this as a case where the Grand Lodge should interpose to make that legal which would be otherwise illegal. On the other hand, it seems to me a case in which the Fraternity should protect itself by the illegality of which the person wrongfully seeking admission to its ranks has, to some extent, been a partaker. The candidate was rejected in both the Lodges in this Common-

wealth upon the soundest masonic reasons. There is evidence tending to show that, feeling strongly aggrieved by these rejections, he was determined to thrust himself upon the Fraternity, and that his animus in the matter was by no means commendable. If he had been rejected from prejudice, or any unworthy cause, and had sought and gained admission in another State with good motives, and no apparent desire to violate our regulations, his irregularity might deserve to be healed, and his status made valid. But in the formal healing by the Grand Lodge of a person clandestinely and fraudulently made in another jurisdiction, it should appear that the course of the candidate has been right and fair in *substance*, and erroneous *only* in form.

It seems that the Grand Regulations of New Hampshire are substantially in accordance with our own in such cases, and that the D.D.G.M. of the Sixth District of that State was deceived by the document above referred to, which indicated that the assent of the Grand Master of Massachusetts had been granted.

The investigation of this case has brought the knowledge of other similar cases in which the degrees have been procured in New Hampshire by residents of Massachusetts, some of which have occurred in Carroll Lodge. In order to give a further reaching and more practical effect to the existing Grand Regulations, I have the honor to suggest an amendment to Article 3d, substantially as follows, viz. : —

SECT. . — No person who has been rejected in any Lodge in this jurisdiction, and who shall have procured his degrees in any other jurisdiction, without the recommendation prescribed in Sec. 2d of this Article, and without the written permission of the Grand Master, shall be admitted as a visitor in any Lodge of this jurisdiction, or be entitled to any recognition as a Mason, until he shall have been formally healed by the Grand Lodge, and notice thereof shall have been duly communicated by the Grand Secretary to all the Lodges of this jurisdiction.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

TRACY P CHEEVER.

Communications were received from the Grand Orient of France and the Grand Lodges of Quebec and Canada, which were referred to R.W. Brothers Charles Levi Woodbury, Charles W. Moore, and Lucius R. Paige.

The following report of the Committee on the Grand Charity Fund was accepted, laid on the table, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings : —

The Committee on the Charity Fund, appointed on the recommendation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, contained in his address delivered before the Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication held on the 10th of March, 1869, "to examine into the state and disposition of this fund, and of the interest accruing from it, and report thereon, with the number and names of the trustees, and of the vacancies, if any, in the board," would beg leave to

REPORT.

Your committee have not been able to find the records of the trustees of the Charity Fund, though they have diligently sought for them. Consequently they have been guided mainly in their investigations by the records of the Grand Lodge, and by those of the trustees of the Masonic Temple. The missing records are of great value as showing the transactions of one of the most important boards ever constituted by this Grand Lodge, and whose existence had been continued for about half a century.

The Constitutions printed in 1857 provide, under the head of "Grand Charity Fund," that "the board of trustees shall appoint a secretary, whose duty it shall be to make a correct record of their proceedings, and report the same, with a statement of the financial condition of the Charity Fund, to the Grand Lodge at every Annual Communication; and each report made to the Grand Lodge shall be signed by the chairman of the board." The last report, according to this requirement, was made on the 14th of December, 1859. It was a transcript of the record of one meeting of the board held on the said 14th of December,

1859, and signed by "Thomas Restieaux, secretary," and "John T. Heard, president of the board." The latter was a member of the board by virtue of his office of Grand Master. There were present at the meeting, Brs. J. T. Heard, C. W. Moore, Daniel Harwood, Thomas Tolman, John Flint, John McClellan, and Thomas Restieaux. A committee on the treasurer's account reported that "there was a balance in favor of the Charity Fund of eight hundred and ninety-one dollars and sixty-seven cents," and it was voted that that sum "be appropriated to the Committee of Charity for the ensuing year." This act of the trustees indicates that they regarded their duties as ended when the mortgage for fifty thousand dollars, dated March 24, 1859, was given by the Grand Lodge to the trustees of the Masonic Temple, for "the amount (with the accumulated interest thereon) heretofore loaned by the trustees of the Charity Fund, so called, and constituting a part of the incumbrances charged upon the said estate [Masonic Temple], and for the protection and security of which the said premises were held by them [trustees of Masonic Temple], as aforesaid, which sum of money is still retained and held by them." The virtual superseding of the trustees of the Charity Fund by the trustees of the Masonic Temple seems not to have been contemplated by the Grand Lodge, but was a measure forced upon that body by the extraordinary proceedings of the trustees of the Masonic Temple, as will appear by their records hereinafter cited.

In this connection it is proper to state that the Act of Incorporation, approved March 1, 1859, and accepted by the Grand Lodge, March 8, 1859, was "for the purpose of managing the charity funds" of the Grand Lodge.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Masonic Temple, held February 8, 1859, they voted that, in their opinion, it was "expedient to purchase the Winthrop House, so called, if the same can be legally done"; also, "that the whole subject be left with the president of the board." At this same meeting the president verbally reported "that the committee charged with the duty

had invested the principal part of the proceeds of the sale of the Temple in stocks of the city of Boston." This report was accepted. This seems to have been done in disregard of the resolve of the Grand Lodge, adopted on the 27th of December, 1858, and presented and recorded at the meeting of the trustees held on the 28th of December, 1858. The resolve was as follows : —

"Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Masonic Temple be directed to pay over to the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge the balance of money arising from the sale of the Temple, and all other funds in their hands ; the same to be securely invested in approved stocks by the finance committee, under the direction of the Grand Master."

At the meeting of the trustees of the Masonic Temple, held on the 18th of February, 1859, the president stated "that he had purchased, in behalf of the trustees, the property in Tremont street known as the Winthrop House estate, for the sum of \$106,500." He also stated "that he had employed Edward S. Rand, Esq., to investigate the title to the estate, and that he was now actively engaged in the performance of that duty." Whereupon it was voted "that the trustees confirm the purchase of the Winthrop House estate by their president, and (if the title be clear) that he be authorized and requested" to take the necessary legal measures to secure a conveyance of the property to the trustees, to be held by them in trust for the same purposes for which they have heretofore held the Masonic Temple."

On the 24th of February, 1859, the president of the trustees stated that the title "had been carefully investigated by Edward S. Rand, Esq., and found to be good and satisfactory ; but that, on consultation with Mr. Rand, he had found difficulties in the way of the trustees taking and holding the property in their own names, without the previous action of the Grand Lodge. Thereupon it was voted, "That the deed of the Winthrop House estate be taken in the name of the president of this board, subject to the future action of the board."

The board again met on the 7th of March, 1859, when the president reported that he "had taken a deed of the Winthrop

House estate, and made the first payment on the same, and caused the deed to be recorded." He also stated "that there are [were] three mortgages upon the property, amounting to seventy-one thousand dollars (\$71,000); two of which are now [were then] due, namely, one for \$20,000, and one for \$6,000. The remaining mortgage, for \$41,000 has [had] about two years to run."

At the meeting of the trustees of the Masonic Temple, held at Nassau Hall on the 11th of March, 1859, the president stated "that the particular purpose of the meeting was to consult with the board of directors of the Grand Lodge (a board created under the new Act of Incorporation of that body, and endowed with competent powers) in relation to the final disposal of the Winthrop House estate, recently purchased by him." Whereupon it was voted, "That the trustees are [were] ready to meet in consultation with the board of directors of the Grand Lodge, and that the brethren composing that board be now invited to assemble with us."

The record continues:—

"The directors being present, Brother Raymond stated that it was his intention to have offered to the Grand Lodge, at its late Communication, the Winthrop House estate, recently purchased by him, but in consequence of the pressure of other business and the unexpected termination of the session in his absence, he had been unable to do so. He now therefore desired to submit to the board of directors for their acceptance, or otherwise, in behalf of the Grand Lodge, the following tender of that property, viz.:

"To the Hon. JOHN T. HEARD, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

"DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Having purchased the estate at the corner of Tremont and Boylston streets in this city, known as the Winthrop House, I hereby offer the same to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and on the same terms and conditions and for the same *price paid by me* at auction.

"The estate was purchased with the view of offering it to the Grand Lodge, which I now have the pleasure to do, fully believing that it is for the best interest of the Grand Lodge and of the Masonic Fraternity of this Commonwealth to make the purchase, and in so doing, to avail themselves of the opportunity to make secure and perpetuate the Grand Charity Fund, which was created by the wisdom of our fathers, and has been faithfully preserved, increased, and protected by their posterity, and held sacred for the relief of the deceased worthy brother, his widow and orphans.

"This fund is now safe in the hands of the trustees of the Masonic Tem-

ple, and has reached the highly respectable amount of *eighty* thousand dollars, and over. I trust that the Grand Lodge will look well to its permanent security.

"In offering this estate to the Grand Lodge, I would remark that this is the only piece of property that has come to my knowledge where the Grand Lodge of the State could be respectably located and well accommodated, and at the same time make a good financial operation.

"The purchase is not only a *good one*, but a *very good one*. So well am I convinced of this fact, that should the Grand Lodge in their wisdom decline to accept this proposal, it will be no disappointment to me, but I shall consider myself fortunate, in a financial point of view, to have the property remain with me.

"Truly and fraternally yours, &c.,

"E. A. RAYMOND.

"BOSTON, March 9, 1859.

"The board of directors, after consultation among themselves, reported through their chairman, the Grand Master, that the offer of the Winthrop House estate by Br. E. A. Raymond had been accepted by them in behalf of the Grand Lodge on the terms and conditions proposed.

"The directors then withdrew, and soon after presented, through their chairman, the following vote adopted by them :

"*Voted*, That the trustees of the Masonic Temple be and hereby are requested to pay over to this board the funds in their hands as proceeds of the Masonic Temple.

"To this vote the trustees returned the following answer :

"Memorandum of terms for the purchase and sale of the Winthrop House, adopted March 11, 1859, by Edward A. Raymond: The trustees of the Masonic Temple, and the directors of the Grand Lodge, in behalf of the corporation.

"1st. Mr. Raymond agrees to convey the said estate to the corporation upon the terms stated in his communication made this day.

"2d. The corporation will mortgage the said estate to the trustees of the Masonic Temple to secure the sum of \$50,000, being the estimated amount of the Charity Fund, — the treasurer giving the bond of the Grand Lodge for that sum, secured by mortgage payable in thirty years, with interest yearly at five per cent.

"3d. The trustees of the Masonic Temple will pay towards the purchase of the Winthrop House estate the net amount in their hands, upon receiving a mortgage, as before stated.

"In answer to this communication, the board of directors notified the trustees that the propositions therein contained had been unanimously accepted by them."

At a meeting of the trustees held on the 13th of March, 1859, "the president stated that on further consultation with Mr. Edward S. Rand and Br. W. H. L. Smith, it was agreed that the

manner suggested by the articles submitted and adopted by the board at its last meeting indicate the most feasible plan of securing the Charity Fund, and the same was accordingly adopted. The president also stated that the necessary papers and also the deed of the Winthrop House were in a state of forwardness."

On the 18th of March, 1859, a meeting of the trustees was held, at which were present, besides trustees, the following members of the board of directors of the Grand Lodge, namely: Brothers John T. Heard, Charles Robbins, Charles W. Moore, and William H. L. Smith.

"The boards having been called to order, the president of the trustees presented for their consideration and acceptance a draft of the deed by which he proposes to convey the Winthrop House estate to the Grand Lodge. He also presented a draft of an indenture of a mortgage on said estate for the sum of fifty thousand dollars, being the amount of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and which said mortgage is intended to secure in the hands of trustees.

"After discussion, the whole subject was referred to Brothers Raymond, Hobart, and Moore, with full powers to execute any papers that may be necessary on the part of the trustees, and to direct and make such transfer of the funds in their hands to the treasurer of the Grand Lodge as it may be lawful and consistent with their own safety for the trustees to make."

On the 15th of November, 1859, the trustees again met. The record reads:—

"The president, in behalf of the committee who were empowered at the last meeting of the board to make such transfer of the funds in their hands to the treasurer of the Grand Lodge as may be lawful and consistent with their own safety for the trustees to make, reported that the transfer had been made to the amount of \$93,883.86."

The trustees met on the 6th of December, 1859. The report of the treasurer was made, by which it appeared that he had in his hands the amount of \$3,038.60 in city bonds, including interest, and \$345.85 in cash, making a total of \$3,384.45. It was voted "That the treasurer retain the funds now in his hands until the further order of this board."

The following vote was offered by Br. Hobart at a meeting of the trustees held on the 15th of February, 1860:—

"Voted, That three hundred dollars each be allowed and paid as a compensation for services rendered to the Grand Lodge, as trustees, by the brethren of this board who have been members of the same since its organization [1835], and that the remaining members of the board be compensated, *pro rata*, according to their respective time of service.

"On motion of Br. Lewis, the question on the above vote was taken by yeas and nays with the following result :

"YEAS — Raymond, Robinson, Hews, Hobart, Greenleaf, and Paige.

"NAYS — Moore and Lewis.

"*Voted*, That the treasurer be authorized and instructed to pay the members of the board in accordance with the foregoing vote.

"*Voted*, That after paying the above and all other claims against the board, the treasurer be authorized and instructed to pay any balance in his hands over to the treasurer of the Grand Lodge.

"Which motion was amended by Br. Paige by adding at the close of the same the following words, 'That body agreeing to assume any debts which may hereafter be found to be due from this board.'"

Another meeting occurred April 10, 1860.

"Br. Robinson stated that he had been called upon by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge [Br. Lewis] for the balance remaining in his hands from the sale of the Temple, but as the Grand Lodge was indebted to this board for interest due on notes, and its treasurer having declined to pay it, he had also declined to pay over the amount in his hands, and asked the instructions of the board.

"The secretary [Br. Moore] then offered the following vote, viz. :

"*Voted*, That the treasurer of this board be instructed to carry into effect the vote passed at the last meeting of the board, instructing him to pay over to the treasurer of the Grand Lodge the balance remaining in his hands from the sale of the Temple.

"After discussion, the above vote was adopted 4 to 2.

"Br. Robinson then resigned his office as treasurer of the board, and Br. Hobart was elected in his place.

"Br. Raymond then resigned his place as a member of the board. Br. Hews also resigned his place in the board.

"*Voted*, That the late treasurer be instructed to pay over the funds and pass the books and papers in his hands to his successor."

At the meeting of the trustees held September 11, 1860, Brothers John T. Heard and William Parkman were elected to fill the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Brothers Edward A. Raymond and John Hews. The secretary, by vote, was directed to remind the treasurer of the Grand Lodge that the interest on the note held by the board of trustees against that Body remained unpaid.

On the 10th of December, 1860, the trustees elected Brothers Charles R. Train and Peter Wainwright to fill vacancies caused by the resignation of Brothers S. W. Robinson and Gardner Greenleaf.

A meeting was called for December 9, 1861, but a quorum was not present. Br. Enoch Hobart tendered his resignation as a member of the board.

From this date to March 1, 1865, no meeting of the trustees was held. The last meeting of the trustees was that above named,—March 1, 1865,—at which were present Brothers Paige, Parkman, Moore, Wainwright, and Lewis. The secretary laid before the board the following communication:—

“ IN GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,
“ September 14, 1864.

“*Voted*, That this Grand Lodge elect to hold the estate described in a certain deed of mortgage from this Grand Lodge to Edward A. Raymond and others, trustees, bearing date the twenty-fourth day of March, A. D. 1859, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, lib. 753, fol. 237, in fee simple and free, and relieved from said mortgage, and hereby require the trustees holding under said mortgage to discharge said mortgage and the bond secured thereby, and convey their estate under and by virtue thereof to the Grand Lodge.

“*Voted*, That the directors of this Grand Lodge are hereby authorized in their discretion, after they shall have, by mortgage or otherwise, obtained upon the security of the real estate of this Grand Lodge whatever funds may be necessary to erect a new Masonic Temple, to give a note to the trustees of the Grand Charity Fund for the preservation of said fund.

“ Copy of Record.

“ Attest,

“ CHARLES W. MOORE, *Grand Secretary*.”

“ IN BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF GRAND LODGE OF
“ MASSACHUSETTS, February 23, 1865.

“*Voted*, That the secretary be directed, at his earliest convenience, to lay before the board of trustees of the Grand Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge the votes passed by that Body on the 14th of September last, directing the discharge of the mortgage held by that Board on the Winthrop House estate, and to ask the coöperation of the Board of Charity in relieving the estate of said incumbrance, as preliminary to the raising of the funds required for the erection of the new building.

“ Copy of Record.

“ Attest,

“ CHARLES W. MOORE, *Grand Secretary*.”

"Br. Paigo resigned his place as a member of the board of trustees, and his resignation was accepted by the board. Br. Winslow Lewis was elected president, vice Br. Paigo resigned. The secretary was authorized and directed to cause the proper papers to be prepared, and to take all necessary measures for the immediate discharge of the mortgage on the Winthrop House estate."

The mortgagees of the mortgage for \$50,000, to secure the Charity Fund, dated March 24, 1859, were Brothers Edward A. Raymond, John Hews, Simon W. Robinson, Winslow Lewis, Enoch Hobart, Gardner Greenleaf, William Eaton, Charles W. Moore, and Lucius R. Paige, who were by that instrument the trustees of that fund.

The discharge of the said mortgage was dated April 8, 1865, and was signed by Winslow Lewis, Charles W. Moore, William Eaton, John T. Heard, William Parkman, Charles R. Train, and Peter Wainwright, who were then the trustees of the Charity Fund.

The committee on the Grand Treasurer's account reported to the Grand Lodge, December 12, 1860, that that officer had received "from the treasurer of the Charity Fund, being a balance in his hands at the dissolution of the board of trustees of that fund, and ordered by said board to be paid to the treasurer of the Grand Lodge, \$1,114.41. They also reported as received by the Grand Treasurer "from trustees of Masonic Temple, being for the balance of property in their hands on the termination of their trust, \$2,091.20."

The two sums above named — the first of \$93,383.36, the second of \$2,091.20 — make the whole amount received by the Grand Lodge from the trustees of the Masonic Temple chiefly, if not entirely, the proceeds of the sale of that edifice, \$95,474.56.

A voluminous report on the Charity Fund was presented to the Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication of March 11, 1857. It was printed, but not entered at length in our records. It was therein estimated that the fund was as follows:—

Due from Grand Lodge, Dec. 1, 1856	\$15,564 05
Due from trustees of Masonic Temple, Dec. 1, 1856	57,419 15
Amount of "Sigourney Fund," Feb. 11, 1857	1 357.86
Cash in hands of Treasurer, Dec. 8, 1856	<u>1,167.12</u>

Total amount of Charity Fund \$75,497.68

The amounts due from the Grand Lodge and trustees of the Masonic Temple were for loans from the Charity Fund to those bodies with interest compounded at five per cent. per annum. At the time the report was made, there were due on the principal loaned \$6,300 from Grand Lodge, and \$15,987 from the trustees of the Masonic Temple.

The report, referring to the "Sigourney Fund," states that—

On the retirement of R.W. Andrew Sigourney from the office of Grand Treasurer, in December, 1819, he made a donation of his salary for that year "to the Charity Fund, to be held by the treasurer of the Grand Lodge as trustee thereof, until the Charity Fund shall go into operation." On the 8th of February, 1820, the Grand Treasurer, R.W. Elijah Morse, charged as due to the late Grand Treasurer the sum of \$176.56; and on the same date the same amount is credited in the account-book of the Charity Fund, in an account headed, 'Donation of Andrew Sigourney, Esq., in account with Elijah Morse, treasurer of Grand Lodge, trustee thereof.' This donation has not been incorporated into the Charity Fund, but has been invested by itself; and through the assiduous care of those brethren to whom its management has been intrusted, it now amounts to the important sum of \$1,357.86. The securities are three books of deposit from two substantial savings institutions, viz. :—

Book No. 6,832, Provident Institution for Savings	\$500.00
Book No. 18,933, Provident Institution for Savings	500 00
Book No. 19,412, Suffolk Savings Bank	<u>357 86</u>

Total to February 11, 1857 \$1,357.86

The Grand Treasurer informs your committee that "on the 22d day of July, 1867, the Sigourney Fund amounted to the sum of \$2,918.93, which was drawn from the savings banks by order of the board of directors of the Grand Lodge."

Your committee would suggest that when the means of the Grand Lodge will permit it, this fund be restored, as a token of respect for the memory of the donor, invested separately from other charity funds, and the income from it applied to charitable purposes.

This report on the Charity Fund contained the request that the "Grand Lodge grant the necessary power to the trustees of the Masonic Temple to enable them to give the note of the treasurer of that board to the first-named trustees [trustees of Charity Fund], or to such person or persons as they shall appoint, for the sum of \$72,983.20, bearing date December 1, 1856, and payable in five years from date, with interest semi-annually, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, the same being for the amounts due to the fund, at that date, by the Grand Lodge and proprietors of the Masonic Temple." The subject was referred to a committee to report at the next communication. At the Quarterly Communication of June 10, 1857, the committee asked for further time, and there the matter seems to have ended.

The vote of the Grand Lodge, passed September 14, 1864, authorizing the directors "to give a note to the trustees of the Grand Charity Fund for the preservation of said fund," appears not to have been complied with.

The Charity Fund was inaugurated on the 30th of January, 1811, when one thousand dollars in specie were appropriated to the fund from the funds of the Grand Lodge. It was denominated "The Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts." For its increase, there were appropriated one fourth part of the quarterages paid to the Grand Lodge, and one half of all donations made to the Grand Lodge, not specifically appropriated by the donors. It was placed under the direction of a board of trustees, consisting of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, and four brethren, not officers of the Grand Lodge, to be elected by ballot, and to constitute, during good behavior, a permanent part of the board. Vacancies occurring from death, resignation, or any other cause, were to be reported by the residue of the board to the Grand Lodge at their next Quarterly Communication, at which time they were to be filled. The trustees were required to hold meetings preceding each Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, and at such other times as should be thought expedient, and a ma-

majority of the board was necessary for every act except that of adjournment; and they were to report their proceedings to the Grand Lodge at the next ensuing Quarterly Communication. It was the duty of the Grand Secretary to keep a separate book, in which were to be recorded all the proceedings of the trustees which should be reported by the secretary of the board. The fund was always to be in the safe keeping of the Grand Treasurer, under the direction of the board of trustees, whose duty it was to invest the same in productive stock. No loans nor donations could be made from the principal of the fund until the income from it should amount to three thousand dollars per annum. The Grand Treasurer had power to retain a year's interest arising from the fund, to be appropriated by the board of trustees to the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as they might consider worthy of assistance. Should there be any interest unappropriated at the end of the year, it was to be invested and ever after considered a part of the principal of the fund. It was also the duty of that officer to report to the Grand Lodge, at every communication, an account of all moneys received and appropriations made to the Charity Fund; and of all donations and expenditures therefrom during the quarter. On the establishment of the Grand Charity Fund, the fee to be paid to the Grand Lodge for the initiation of a candidate was three dollars. Measures were taken to obtain subscriptions to the fund from "prosperous and benevolent individuals of the Masonic Family," and the trustees were "directed to petition the Legislature for an incorporation of their board."

The members of the board thus organized were Timothy Bigelow, Grand Master; Samuel Bradford, Deputy Grand Master; Andrew Sigourney, Grand Treasurer; Dr. Josiah Bartlett, Dr. John Warren, Hon. Thomas Dawes, and Rev. John Elliot.

By the Constitutions of December 27, 1811, it was provided that the fund be "increased annually by adding thereto one-fourth part of the annual fees, and one-third part of all initiation fees paid the Grand Lodge by the Lodges under its jurisdiction," and that

"each report made to the Grand Lodge be signed by the chairman of the board."

After the Act of Incorporation of 1818 was accepted by the Grand Lodge, the Charity Fund was "held in the name of the Master, Wardens, and Members of the Grand Lodge," but was under the direction of the board of trustees before named and six brethren, not acting officers of the Grand Lodge. This board, thus constituted, was styled "The Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts." It was required of the trustees to appoint a secretary, whose duty it was to make a correct record of their proceedings, and report the same to the Grand Lodge at every Quarterly Communication.

At the request of the trustees, the Grand Lodge, September 12, 1821, amended the Constitutions, to the effect that the trustees should hold a meeting on the Monday preceding the Annual Communication. The quarterly meetings were abolished.

By the Constitutions of 1843, it was provided that the fund should be "increased annually, by adding thereto one-fourth part of the annual fees, and one dollar of all initiation fees paid to the Grand Lodge by the Lodges." The board of trustees consisted of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Recording Grand Secretary, and six brethren, who were not acting officers of the Grand Lodge, to be elected for the term of three years. The treasurer of the Grand Lodge was *ex officio* treasurer of the Charity Fund, unless the trustees elected a special treasurer.

In presenting this sketch of the regulations constituting and governing the old board of trustees of the Charity Fund from its inception in 1811 to its dissolution in 1859, your committee thought it might be serviceable to the Grand Lodge should it hereafter organize a similar board to manage its charity funds.

The existing Constitutions, adopted in 1860, declare, 1st. That the Charity Fund established by the Grand Lodge shall be styled "The Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachu-

setts," and shall consist of \$50,000 ; 2d. That it shall be held in the name of the Grand Lodge, and be under the direction of a board of trustees, styled "The Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts"; and 3d. That "the interest arising annually from this fund shall be appropriated, as the Grand Lodge shall direct, for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as may be deemed worthy of assistance ; but all interest unappropriated at the end of each year shall be paid over by the trustees to the treasurer of the Grand Lodge. *Provided, nevertheless,* That if this fund shall at any time be reduced below the sum prescribed in Sect. 1, all such unappropriated interest shall be added yearly to the principal, until it shall again amount to fifty thousand dollars."

It will be observed that no provisions are made by the present regulations for the appointment of trustees of the Charity Fund, nor for their government, as in previous Constitutions. Such provisions are necessary, if the Constitutions now in force take the place of and repeal those which precede them.

It is declared that the Charity Fund shall consist of fifty thousand dollars ! Your committee know not where this fund, or any part of it, is, unless it is to be found in the value which this Temple may have over and above the incumbrances upon it. The history of the fund warrants the opinion that whatever this structure is worth, beyond the debts secured by it, belongs to and should constitute the Charity Fund.

Your committee confidently believe that at no distant day this edifice will be relieved of all liabilities, and its entire net revenue devoted to charitable purposes. They believe they do not mistake the character and disposition of the masonic brethren of Massachusetts in predicting that they will cheerfully contribute the means necessary for so noble an object. With what commendable pride would they point to this elegant, commodious, and durable Temple, when they could say, "This is the Charity Fund of the Freemasons of Massachusetts, consecrated to the relief of unfortunate brethren, their widows and orphans, for-

ever!" Such a result, accomplished, as it could easily be, by the united offerings of the nineteen thousand brethren composing the membership of the Lodges in this Masonic Jurisdiction, would demonstrate that the motto, "In union there is strength," is as applicable to masonic as to political effort.

For the Committee,

JOHN T. HEARD.

The Recording Grand Secretary presented the following account of Diplomas delivered to the D.D. Grand Masters, which was accepted, and also the following report of Lodges unrepresented during the year :—

To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

Agreeably to your request, I have the honor to report that I have, during the year ending on the 27th of December, 1869, delivered to the D.D. Grand Masters under your jurisdiction, Diplomas as follows :—

District No.		Past Masters.	Master Masons.
1.	. . . . .	12	160
" "	2.	—	188
" "	3.	6	147
" "	4.	12	135
" "	5.	—	185
" "	6.	—	53
" "	7.	6	100
" "	8.	—	75
" "	9.	—	25
" "	10.	2	116
" "	11.	15	150
" "	12.	—	180
" "	13.	3	133
" "	14.	12	105
" "	15.	—	75
" "	16.	8	88
Total		71	1,860

Respectfully submitted,

SOLON THORNTON,

Recording Grand Secretary.

Boston, Dec. 27, 1869.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

The following Lodges do not appear to have been represented at any of the communications of the Grand Lodge during the past year, viz :—

AMITY.	DE WITT CLINTON.	MOUNT ZION.
ASHLER.	EVENING STAR.	MARINE.
ARTISAN.	EDEN.	MAY FLOWER.
BETHEL.	EXCELSIOR.	OXFORD.
BLACKSTONE RIVER.	JORDAN.	PIONEER.
CORINTHIAN.	JERUSALEM.	WARREN.
CHARLES W. MOORE.	JOHN WARREN.	BETHESDA, Valparaiso, S.A.
CORNER STONE.	JOHN ABBOT.	HIRAM, Copiapo, Chili, S.A.
DAY SPRING.	MOUNTAIN.	J. L. HUTCHINSON, Arica, Peru.

Respectfully submitted.

SOLON THORNTON,

BOSTON, Dec. 27, 1869.

Recording Grand Secretary.

R. W. Charles Levi Woodbury, in behalf of the Committee on the Banquet, made a verbal report, which was accepted.

The Recording Grand Secretary acknowledged the receipt, for the past year, of the Proceedings of the following Grand Lodges :—

ALABAMA.	LOUISIANA.	NEW HAMPSHIRE.
CALIFORNIA.	MAINE.	NEW JERSEY.
CANADA.	MARYLAND.	NEW YORK.
COLORADO.	MICHIGAN.	OREGON.
CONNECTICUT.	MINNESOTA.	PENNSYLVANIA.
FLORIDA.	MISSISSIPPI.	RHODE ISLAND.
GEORGIA.	MISSOURI.	SOUTH CAROLINA.
ILLINOIS.	MONTANA.	TEXAS.
INDIANA.	NEBRASKA.	WISCONSIN.
IOWA.	NEVADA.	GRAND ORIENT OF FRANCE.
KANSAS.	NEW BRUNSWICK.	GRAND ORIENT OF ITALY.

The Corresponding Grand Secretary was called upon to report.

The Committee on the Library was called upon to report.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Marshal formed a procession of the brethren with the Three Great Lights and representatives of the Three Lesser Lights, in their proper places, with the members of Saint Andrew's, Tyrian, and Massachusetts Lodges immediately after the Grand Officers, and proceeded to the Banquet Hall, where the Feast of Saint John the Evangelist was celebrated after the manner of Masons.

The first toast — To the memory of our lamented Grand Master, General Joseph Warren — was drank standing, and in silence.

R.W. Br. Past Grand Master John T. Heard responded to a sentiment complimentary to the "Massachusetts Grand Lodge."

R.W. Br. Past Grand Master Winslow Lewis, to "Saint John's Grand Lodge."

For Saint Andrew's Lodge, R.W. Br. Past Grand Master William Parkman, R.W. Br. Charles W. Moore, and Br. Hamilton Willis responded.

The M.W. Br. Amos E. Cobb answered for the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

Invitations had been sent to the Grand Masters of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, and to Past Grand Master Josiah H. Drummond of Maine, to be present at the Festival. Letters were received and read from Grand Masters John H. Lynde of Maine, Alexander M. Winn of New Hampshire, James Gibson of New York, and from R.W. Br. Drummond of Maine, excusing and regretting their absence.

For the Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Master,

the Earl of Zetland, W. Br. Alfred F. Chapman, Master of Zetland Lodge, responded.

W. Br. John A. Goodwin spoke for Tyrian Lodge.

R.W. Br. Marshall P. Wilder spoke for Massachusetts Lodge.

R.W. Br. Past Grand Master Charles C. Dame answered for Saint Peter's Lodge, formerly of Newburyport.

The Grand Chaplain, W. Br. James A. Bolles, responded to a sentiment relating to Saint John the Evangelist.

The M.W. Grand Master retired from the Grand Lodge, and the R.W. Deputy Grand Master assumed the chair.

R.W. Br. GEORGE E. STACY answered for . . .	Montgomery Lodge.
R.W. Br. WILLIAM SUTTON answered for . . .	Aberdour Lodge.
R.W. WYZEMAN MARSHALL answered for . . .	Joseph Warren Lodge.
R.W. Br. WILLIAM F. SALMON answered for . . .	Kilwinning Lodge.
W. Br. LOVELL BICKNELL answered for . . .	Warren Lodge.
R.W. Br. CHARLES A. REED answered for . . .	John Hancock Lodge.
R.W. Br. HENRY CHICKERING answered for . . .	John Warren Lodge.
W. Br. EDWARD STEARNS answered for . . .	Paul Revere Lodge.
Br. JOSEPH G. BARNEY answered for . . .	Union Lodge.
R.W. Br. SAMUEL P. OLIVER answered for . . .	Dalhousie Lodge.
W. Br. E. DANA BANCROFT answered for . . .	King Solomon's Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

At Low Twelve the R.W. Deputy Grand Master closed the M.W. Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in Due Form.

A true abstract from the Record.

Attest,

SOLON THORNTON,

Recording Grand Secretary.

NOTE. — At the Feast, ninety-seven brethren sat down, and their names are entered upon the Record of the Communication. The speeches were eloquent, and full of interesting historic matter, and the Grand Secretary regrets that he is unable to enter them of record.

**REPORTS OF
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS
AND
GRAND LECTURERS.**

REPORTS OF DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

FIRST DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND W. BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit my report for the past year as D.D.G.M. for the First Masonic District. I have visited officially all the Lodges in my District.

In order that each Lodge may have its just credit in regard to the payments it may have made to the Grand Lodge, I herewith submit a statement of the full amount paid by each Lodge in the First District for the past year: —

Lodges.	G.L. Dues.	Initiations.	TAX.	COMMUTATION.		
			\$1	\$8	\$9	\$10
Saint John's . . .	\$10	\$105	\$213	\$504	\$45	\$30
Saint Andrew's . . .	10	20				
Massachusetts . . .	10	45	133	264	117	60
Columbian . . .	10	80	43			
Mount Lebanon . . .	10	90	209	168	63	10
Germania . . .	10	35	48	40		
Winslow Lewis . . .	10	75	5		73	100
Revere . . .	10	40	68		242	
Joseph Warren . . .	10	150	113	800	144	80
Aberdour . . .	10	40				50
Elensis . . .	10	25	37	8		
Zetland . . .	10	20	38	8	18	
	\$120	\$725	\$907	\$1,792	\$702	\$330
Making total payments			\$4,576.00			

I regret that I am not able to report more favorably on the payment of the Commutation Tax. Strong efforts have been made by many of the Masters and Officers to induce the members to commute in full, but their efforts have not been so successful as we might have hoped.

In all my official visits, I have endeavored to inform the officers and members on all the important points alluded to in the instructions which I received from you.

I am happy to state that the Lodges are all in a prosperous condition; peace and harmony prevail throughout the district. The records of the various Lodges are very full and complete, many of them presenting elegant specimens of work.

On all occasions, I have been received with great kindness on the part of both officers and members, and I have found much pleasure and satisfaction in the discharge of my duties.

Thanking you for the confidence reposed in me, I remain

Faternally yours,

ANDREW G. SMITH,

D.D.G. Master First Masonic District.

BOSTON, Dec. 1, 1869.

SECOND DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful WILLIAM S. GARDNER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit a report of my official acts as your representative in the Second Masonic District of the Commonwealth for the past year, and a statement of other particulars relating to the condition of the various Lodges of which the district is composed.

I have made a visit to Palestine Lodge, Malden, now working under a Dispensation returnable in December next. This young body of Masons exhibits great interest in the work and business of the Fraternity, and I heartily recommend it as worthy of a Charter.

Upon the occasion of my official visit to the several Lodges, the attendance was as follows: —

Lodges.	No. Present.	Members Present.
King Solomon's	138	90
Hiram	130	84
Mt. Carmel	105	65
Star of Bethlehem	125	93
Mt. Hermon	107	66
Wyoming	95	63
Mt. Vernon	119	78
John Abbot	115	74
Henry Price	110	83
Golden Fleece	96	68
William Sutton	82	29
Robert Lash	53	22
Faith	52	18

In examining the records, I found them in every case properly kept,

with the exception of two Lodges in which the Secretaries had neglected to record the names of all the officers of the Lodge. Many of the records exhibit great neatness and even elegance.

All the Lodges have a copy of the Grand Lodge Constitutions, either in the hall or in one of the ante-rooms. The By-Laws of each Lodge exhibit evidence of the approval of the Grand Lodge, except in the case of Star of Bethlehem Lodge and Mt. Vernon Lodge, each of which has amended its By-Laws, which are to be submitted to the Grand Lodge at its next communication, for the approval of amendments.

The work of the Lodges, as exemplified before me at my official visits, though not of uniform excellence, accuracy, and efficiency throughout the district, was generally accurate and well performed. In fact, the character of the work and the obvious attainment of the officers are such that in no Lodge are the services of a Grand Lecturer required. In several of the Lodges the work is rendered with such accuracy and impressiveness as to leave little to be desired in this regard. And, as connected with this subject, I must be permitted to call to the notice of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge the fact that at Mt. Hermon Lodge, Medford, I witnessed an examination of the two most recent initiates in the Lecture of the First Degree, preparatory to their admission to the Second Degree. The candidates were placed near the altar, and answered every question propounded to them by the Master with promptness and almost faultless accuracy. The entire examination was conducted in such a manner as to draw the warmest commendation from all the members of my suite. I trust that this healthful practice of Mt. Hermon Lodge may be imitated by all the Lodges in the Commonwealth, for I think there can be no more effective method of diffusing the knowledge and elevating the standard of our work.

I have granted but one Dispensation during the year to confer the Second and Third Degrees out of course, but on separate nights. This was to Robert Lash Lodge, in June last, for the benefit of Benjamin P. Rider, and was a case of necessity, if such a case can exist. No Lodge in the district has appeared in public procession this year, except at the funeral ceremonies of brethren.

These are the practical points to which I have given attention, in conformity with your instructions. I have uniformly advised the Lodges of this district that it is the earnest desire of the Grand Master to see them represented by their proper officers at every communication of the Grand Lodge. I have also endeavored to urge a strict adherence to the ancient landmarks and the general regulations of the

Fraternity in the performance of all our rites and ceremonies, and in all that relates to the externals of the Order. But I have been impressed with the belief that I should not do justice to the Grand Master if, in my counsels to the Lodges, I did not pass upward from the mere forms and regulations of our great Fraternity to the higher plane of its principles and moral requisitions.

In all the duties appertaining to the office, by the appointment to which you have honored me, my labors have been so far cheered and lightened by the able and accomplished brethren of my suite that I know not how to return them adequate thanks for their services. The Lodges of the Second District have welcomed me as your representative with a hearty and uniform kindness which I can never forget. The pleasant relations which I have maintained with them for the past two years I trust may be continued by the appointment of another to the honorable position which I have held by your favor, and that of your predecessor, and which I now gratefully resign.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

TRACY P CHEEVER,

D.D.G. Master Second Masonic District.

CHELSEA, Nov. 12, 1869.

THIRD DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — Having been pleased to honor me with the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master for the Third Masonic District, I most respectfully submit to you this report of my doings.

The Charters of the Lodges are all in a good state of preservation.

The By-Laws are well adapted for the proper regulation of the Lodges, and have, no doubt, been properly approved by the Grand Lodge, with the exception of some amendments in one or two cases. It has been the custom for some time for the Grand Master to affix his signature of approval to them. In some cases, I have not been able to find this, and in no Lodge has the attestation of the Grand Secretary been shown to me. I have therefore requested that the By-Laws of all the Lodges in my district shall be sent to his office to be properly attested by him.

The records of all the Lodges are correctly and carefully transcribed by brethren who seem to take a commendable pride in presenting a handsome record; and I feel that it is my duty to bring to the notice of

the Fraternity a remarkable system of Lodge book-keeping, invented by Brother William D. Barrett, Secretary of Mount Tabor Lodge, East Boston, exhibiting at a glance a brother's masonic history from the time of presenting his petition for the degrees, to the time he ceases from any cause to be a member of the Lodge. On one folio we have the dates of his application, his acceptance, or rejection for the degrees; his initiation, crafting, or raising; his acceptance or rejection for membership; an account of his indebtedness to the Lodge for degrees, membership, fees, quarterages, or for any cause, and the credits for all moneys paid by him, and his withdrawal by dimit, suspension, expulsion, or death. An inspection of this method by Secretaries will convince them that it is a model of perspicuity and comprehensiveness, as well as simplicity.

The work exhibited throughout the district was very satisfactory. All of the Worshipful Masters are zealous in the cause of Freemasonry. Some of them are men of culture and ability. The officers generally appear to be properly impressed with the business in which they are engaged; and the brethren, preserving that decorum and attention to the ceremonies so essentially necessary to the impressiveness of the ritual, conduce to the exemplification of work worthy of high commendation. In the style of work, there is of course a wide range, according to the differences in men; but I may say that I was struck with its remarkable uniformity and correctness.

The annual returns of the Lodges have in every instance been neatly and correctly prepared, and promptly submitted on the occasion of the official visit.

I have visited all the Lodges in my district once, and some twice, officially, and others several times informally. I have addressed all the Lodges once, and some of them twice, in relation to the monetary affairs of the Grand Lodge, and urging upon them the absolute necessity existing for the commutation of the "Members' tax." I have also addressed a request to each W. Master to appoint an efficient committee to canvass the brethren of his Lodge, with a view of making a strong practical effort to induce each brother to do his part in relieving his Lodge from the operation of the tax.

Thus far my endeavors have been crowned with only partial success. It is with great satisfaction, however, that I am able to report that, in response to an appeal from me, Gate of the Temple Lodge, South Boston, voted at once to assume the tax for its 161 members, and to pay the amount of \$1,288 forthwith, which I have had the pleasure of handing to the Grand Treasurer. I am assured by the officers of the Lodges that they will take an interest in the matter, and I trust that their efforts will lead to some substantial result.

I have granted but few Dispensations, and those only for what I believed to be good and sufficient reasons.

I signed my name in approval of an application for a Dispensation for a new Lodge, to be called Rabboni Lodge, to be located in South Boston. It was your pleasure to grant the prayer of the petitioners, and it affords me satisfaction to report that its prosperity has so far fully equalled the expectations of all who are interested in its welfare.

In all my visits I have been received with personal courtesy and cordiality, as well as with the highest respect and consideration, as the representative of the Grand Lodge.

Thanking you for the honor which you have conferred upon me, with my sincere wishes for the continued and increasing prosperity of your administration, I remain, most Worshipful Sir, with respect,

Truly and fraternally yours,

BENJAMIN POPE,

D.D.G.M. Third Masonic District.

SOUTH BOSTON, Nov. 1868.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, *Most Worshipful Grand Master.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — Herewith I beg to submit my official report for the past year. I have visited the twelve Lodges in the district, distributed one hundred and thirty Diplomas, and granted Dispensations for initiates as follows: —

Belmont Lodge, second and third degrees, one candidate.

Putnam Lodge, first and second degrees, one candidate.

Mizpah Lodge, first, second, and third degrees, one candidate.

Pequossette Lodge, third degree, one candidate.

I have also approved a petition to establish Charity Lodge at North Cambridge.

The Lodges are quite proficient in the work as promulgated by the Grand Lodge, and need no instruction by the Grand Lecturers. Much greater caution should be exercised in proposing candidates for the degrees, there having been fifty rejections in this district during the past year, nearly all of them of persons, as near as I could ascertain, unworthy to be admitted to the Masonic Order.

More defined regulations are necessary in regard to Lodges conferring the degrees upon candidates whose residence is not in the town where the Lodge is held. A custom has gained strong ground in con-

ferring degrees on such candidates upon the recommendation of the Master and Wardens of one or more Lodges. It oftentimes happens that there are good and sufficient reasons to confer the degrees on an alien, but the permit should be indorsed and approved by the Deputy of the district.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

Lodges.	Members.	Initiates.	Rejections.	Present at time of visit.	
				Members.	Visitors.
Corinthian .	61	1	4	24	8
Meridian .	121	13	15	45	—
Amicable .	201	8	6	54	70
Bothesda .	83	10	0	35	15
Monitor .	138	11	5	76	92
Putnam .	105	13	3	48	57
Pequossette .	91	5	0	32	10
Dalhousie .	145	19	4	43	7
Mt. Olivet .	109	14	4	46	33
Belmont .	35	13	0	20	45
Isaac Parker .	52	8	7	35	47
Mispah .	77	9	2	51	54
	1,216	124	50	509	438

The true masonic hospitality flourishes as heretofore among the Lodges comprising this district, and I beg leave to return to the several bodies my high appreciation of the hearty greeting and cheerful welcome which they invariably extend to the representatives of the Grand Lodge.

With many thanks for the honor of my appointment, believe me,

Very fraternally,

F. LYMAN WINSHIP,

D.D.G. Master Fourth Masonic District.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

To the Most Worshipful WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—I have the honor herewith to submit my annual report of the condition of the Lodges composing the Fifth Masonic District, naming them in the order in which I visited them, and the date of visitation.

JOHN T. HEARD, Ipswich, Sept. 22. This Lodge has steadily increased in numbers since its organization in 1864. Its officers and members are stimulated by a desire to bring the work up to the highest

standard; consequently great improvement has been made in that respect during the last year.

The rooms occupied by the Lodge are not all that could be desired, but arrangements have been made for a new hall, which will be ready for occupation early in the ensuing year.

TYRIAN LODGE, Gloucester, October 5. I found this Lodge in a very flourishing condition, having initiated a larger number during the past year than any other Lodge in the district. Its officers are well posted in the ritual and lectures, and spare no pains to instruct those who are admitted to the Order.

ASHLER LODGE, Rockport, November 8. I am unable to give a very elaborate account of this Lodge, as several of the officers were absent on the evening of visitation, and no arrangement had been made to exhibit the work. It has admitted a large number of candidates, considering the size of the town in which it is located, and I find that it has exercised due vigilance in the selection of its candidates, and that only good material has been admitted.

ACACIA LODGE, Gloucester, November 12. This is the youngest Lodge in this district. I found it to be in a prosperous and excellent condition. The progress it has made since its organization, which is of comparatively recent date, is very commendable, and must be very gratifying to its members.

A Dispensation was granted this Lodge, Nov. 20, 1868, to confer the third degree upon William Saddler, who was obliged to go to California.

PHILANTHROPIC LODGE, Marblehead, November 16. This is the oldest Lodge in this district, having received its charter in 1760, and continues to deserve the excellent reputation it has heretofore enjoyed. The brethren are thoroughly devoted to the interests of the Fraternity, and the cordial and hospitable manner in which a visitor is received makes a visit to this Lodge one of great pleasure; and under the leadership of its present Master, it must continue to prosper.

A Dispensation was granted this Lodge, Sept. 8, 1868, to confer the degrees upon Joseph W. Bessom, who is a mariner, and was unable to remain at home a sufficient length of time to enable him to receive the degrees in regular order.

AMITY LODGE, Danvers, November 19. The growth of this Lodge has been very rapid, numbering at the present time one hundred and thirty members. It maintains its high reputation for work, and under its present officers the interests of the Lodge will not be endangered by imprudence or neglect.

LIBERTY LODGE, Beverly, November 22. There is no Lodge in this district where harmony and unanimity of sentiment prevail to a

greater extent than among the brethren of this Lodge, and I am confident that by no act of theirs will the fair escutcheon of our Order ever become tarnished.

The officers understand their duties, and no one will ever regret a visit to Liberty Lodge.

ESSEX LODGE, Salem, November 23. The record of this old Lodge is too well known to require any commendation from me. No Lodge has a more honorable record, and among its members may be found some of the oldest and most influential citizens in this vicinity. The work in this Lodge is of a high standard.

JORDAN LODGE, Peabody, November 24. This Lodge is composed of excellent material, and is deserving of the high reputation it has heretofore enjoyed. The influence which it is exerting in its vicinity is very salutary and beneficial, and no Lodge in this district stands higher in the estimation of the public. In the list of members we find the name of that true-hearted masonic brother, Gen. William Sutton, who has endeared himself to every Mason by his genial disposition, and who, by his many acts of kindness and great liberality, has become eminently conspicuous among his brethren.

STARR KING LODGE, Salem, November 26. A Lodge comparatively young, numbering nearly one hundred members. It has done but a small amount of work the past year, but what it has done has been done well. The brethren are fully awake to the interests of the Order, and make every exertion to carry out those great principles which should ever govern the members of our Institution.

The following table will present a better and more comprehensive view of the general condition of the Lodges in this district than can be found in the brief manner in which I have alluded to them above.

Lodges.	No. Members.	Present at Visitation.
Philanthropic	106	57
Tyrian	148	62
Essex	179	98
Jordan	112	78
Liberty	143	84
Ashler	115	18
Amity	130	43
Starr King	98	80
John T. Heard	84	37
Acacia	77	45
	<hr/> 1,186	<hr/> 602

Thus it will be perceived that the whole number of affiliated Masons in the Fifth District is eleven hundred and eighty-six (1,186), being an increase compared with the previous year of fifty-three (53), while the number of initiates is thirty-six (36) less.

The Lodges have been prosperous, and most of them have very commodious rooms. The records, with one exception, have been very neatly and accurately kept, and reflect great credit on the efficient Secretaries.

Several of the Lodges appeared in public procession on the twenty-fourth of June, in Newburyport, but no Dispensation was obtained from me, as it was understood that the Lodges located in Newburyport, having obtained permission to celebrate that occasion, no further Dispensation was necessary.

Before closing my report, I desire to present my sincere thanks to those brethren who have assisted me in my labors this season, and especially to Bro. Henry A. Brown, who has accompanied me in my visits throughout the district.

My visits have been a source of great personal pleasure, and in every Lodge have I been received as your representative with the utmost cordiality.

In conclusion, I desire to tender you my grateful acknowledgments for the uniform kindness I have ever received at your hands, and for the honor conferred in selecting me for this important position.

With great respect, I am sir,

Your very obedient servant,

GEORGE H. PEIRSON,

D.D.G. Master Fifth Masonic District.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

To WM. S. GARDNER, Esq., M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Herewith I hand you my fourth annual report, covering a brief account of my official acts during the past year.

St. John Baptist's Day, June 24, was celebrated at Newburyport in this district in a most appropriate and becoming manner, on which occasion I was present (at your request) with a full delegation of Deputy Grand Officers. Everything was done by our brethren to make the occasion profitable and pleasant, and I am happy to add that the celebration was a complete success.

On Monday, Oct. 13, I made my official visit to Tuscan Lodge, Lawrence. This Lodge is prospering in every respect; its growth has indeed been remarkable. With officers well fitted for their positions, with a large and united membership, it ranks among the first Lodges in

the "good old Commonwealth." After the official examinations were concluded, I installed (publicly) the newly elected officers of this Lodge, and made an address. There was present, to add to the interest of the occasion, a member of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, together with several brethren from the same jurisdiction.

On the following evening, I visited Charles C. Dame Lodge, Georgetown. Like all my former visits, this also was a pleasant one. After the usual examinations, I witnessed their work, which it is but justice to say was substantially that of the Grand Lodge, and was both eloquent and impressive. The Lodge is in a healthy and prosperous condition.

On Monday, Oct. 25, I made my annual visit to Merrimack Lodge, Haverhill. This was the anniversary of the birth of its oldest Past Master, the Hon. Moses Wingate, who, after the lapse of one hundred years, was able to be present in the Lodge Room, and was seated in the East, while his son, the Rev. Charles Wingate, received the first degree. Probably *never before* in the history of our Order, and perhaps *never again* will such an interesting event occur. The day seemed by common consent transformed into a holiday; the schools were dismissed, and the citizens generally joined in demonstrations of respect, while this aged and honorable Mason rode from his residence to the hall. I regret that I did not reach Haverhill in season to witness these interesting and impressive ceremonies. I need only say that Merrimack Lodge continues in a satisfactory manner to perform its work. Its officers are courteous and obliging, and I am sure are admirably fitted for their respective positions.

Friday evening, Nov. 26, I visited Grecian Lodge, Lawrence, carefully examined its records, and witnessed work on the first degree by its newly elected officers, who had, just previous to this visit, been installed. The work was excellent. This Lodge is in a prosperous condition, and being the *oldest*, must witness with pride and pleasure the success of our Order in this young, enterprising, and rapidly growing city. Already has a Dispensation been issued for a new Lodge, the third, in a city whose site less than thirty years ago was a comparative wilderness.

On the evening of Monday, Nov. 29, I was present (officially) with Saggaheew Lodge, Haverhill. The work (that of the third degree) was admirably gone through with. This Lodge is making commendable progress, and is well officered.

On the following evening, Nov. 30, I made the official visit to St. Mark's, Newburyport. The records of this Lodge bear evidence of the zeal of the brethren, in propagating genuine Masonry. Its work is, with a few verbal changes, that laid down by the Grand Lodge. And

I am persuaded that the influence which our brethren in Newburyport are exerting is at once salutary and beneficial. I was on this occasion the recipient of the same courtesy which as your representative has always been shown me here. Several brethren from Rhode Island were present at this visitation, and were exceedingly gratified at the courtesy and attention shown them.

On account of my removal from the State, I was unable to visit all the Lodges in the district. And, therefore, in accordance with a provision of the Grand Constitutions, and with your approval, I deputized W. Past Master Nason, of Lawrence, to visit St. John's, Newburyport; Warren, Amesbury; St. Matthew's, Andover; John Hancock, Methuen; and Bethany, West Amesbury; which duties I am happy to learn he discharged in a manner satisfactory to the Lodges and highly creditable to himself.

I have granted but few Dispensations during the year, and have signed a recommendation for one new Lodge, viz., that at Lawrence.

It was my privilege to present, in behalf of the brethren of Tuscan Lodge, Lawrence, to their retiring Master, W. Daniel Nason, a beautiful Past Master's jewel, and to the Chaplain, Rev. Bro. Henry Cooke (now pastor of the Bethel Church, Boston), a gold chain with appropriate emblems.

In conclusion, I desire to thank my brethren of the district for the attention and kindness which they have shown me. I shall always remember them with pleasure, and invoke upon them the blessings of "Him without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy." Thanking you, Most Worshipful, for your continued manifestations of confidence and esteem,

I am, with assurances of the highest personal regard,

Yours fraternally,

LEMUEL A. BISHOP,

D.D.G.M. Sixth District.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, M.W. Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit herewith my first annual report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Seventh Masonic District.

I have visited officially every Lodge in the district once at least, and as your representative have invariably been received by the brethren with the utmost courtesy and kindness.

With one exception, all of the Lodges under my charge are in a healthy and prosperous condition; the officers are all active and zealous, and familiar with their respective duties, contending only in that noble sense of emulation of "who best can work and best agree." Were it not that comparisons are often found to be odious, I should particularize.

The work throughout the district will compare favorably with any in the jurisdiction, and your familiarity with it, derived from personal observation during successive years of masonic service in various distinguished capacities, precludes the necessity of my calling attention to any slight variations from the Grand Lodge requirements which may exist in some Lodges.

You will observe, by examining the customary tabular statement annexed, that the amount of work performed is one third less than that of last year.

I will not undertake to ascribe any reasons for this until I am able to compare it with the returns from other districts.

I regret that an imperative sense of duty compels me to withhold all commendations from Aurora Lodge, of Fitchburg, whose usefulness as a Lodge has practically and entirely been suspended for more than a year past.

The officers are faithful and true. I am unable to learn that there is any party feeling or differences of opinion in the Lodge, concerning any of those subjects which so often agitate communities, and which, although strictly forbidden within our walls, as we all know, have oftentimes made their impress, and detracted from the well being of the Lodge as well as the good of the Fraternity.

It appears that some of the brethren who have been disappointed in the result of the ballot in some cases have, by a persistent use and abuse of this great prerogative, undertaken to force the Lodge to admit certain applicants who have been rejected repeatedly during a term of years.

As your official representative, I have firmly but kindly admonished them that they are guilty of highly unmasonic conduct in suspending the usefulness of the Lodge, as well as abusing their sacred privilege; and if persisted in, the rights of the Lodge must and will be maintained and respected, and the guilty parties subjected to the extreme penalties. I trust that Aurora Lodge, venerable in years, honored

as she has been in the past, will resume her usefulness and former position among her sister Lodges.

Referring to your circular letter of August 30th, I am pleased to inform you that each Lodge in the district is provided with the proper furniture, to meet every requirement of the Grand Lodge.

The records are uniformly full and well kept, and most of them are models of neatness and detail.

For good and sufficient reasons adduced, I have granted seven Dispensations, as follows:—

January 9th, to William Parkman Lodge, Winchester, to confer the second and third degrees on Brother Frank M. Stone.

March 8th, to Caleb Butler Lodge of South Groton, to confer the second degree on Brothers Charles F. Rand and E. O. Harlow.

April 5th, to Ancient York Lodge of Lowell, to confer the third degree on Brother John D. Morse.

May 5th, to Mount Horeb Lodge of Woburn, to confer the third degree on Brother Walter Whitney.

June 3d, to Pentucket Lodge of Lowell, to confer the third degree on Brothers Manlius Knowles and A. L. Decater.

June 9th, to William North Lodge of Lowell, to confer the third degree on Brother W. A. Stoddard.

November 22d, to Aurora Lodge of Fitchburg, to confer the second degree on Brother J. H. Wilkins.

No Lodge in this district has appeared in public procession during the year except in the performance of burial service by request, and no Dispensation therefor has been asked.

A strict construction of Section VI. Part V. of the Grand Constitutions would seem to require permission to appear on every occasion.

The following statistics are submitted as a matter of record, and may be of interest to many of the Craft:—

		COMMUTATION PAID.			
Lodges and Location.	Members.	\$10	\$5	\$2	Total
Saint Paul's, Groton . .	33	3	4	5	12
Aurora, Fitchburg . . .	125	3	0	0	3
Pentucket, Lowell . . .	253	7	57	13	76
Ancient York, Lowell . .	187	2	34	0	36
Mount Horeb, Woburn . .	98	0	4	1	5
Caleb Butler, South Groton .	67	2	0	0	2
William Parkman, Winchester	58	0	17	1	18
Charles W. Moore, Fitchburg	47	5	9	0	14
Kilwinning, Lowell, . . .	38	11	23	2	36
William North, Lowell . .	75	0	23	0	26
	961	23	176	21	220

Lodge and Location.	Present at	Initiates.	Present at	Initiates.	No. Members.	
	Official Visit.		Official Visit.		1868.	1869.
Saint Paul's, Groton . . .	48	4	33	3	40	38
Aurora, Fitchburg . . .	60	12	54	2	133	125
Pentucket, Lowell . . .	128	24	110	15	253	253
Ancient York, Lowell . . .	30	14	28	9	186	187
Mount Horeb, Woburn . . .	48	11	36	6	88	93
Caleb Butler, South Groton . .	30	8	23	5	70	67
William Parkman, Winchester	70	4	51	5	57	58
Charles W. Moore, Fitchburg .	18	7	6	4	44	47
Kilwinning, Lowell . . .	19	3	14	4	35	38
William North, Lowell . . .	60	10	50	9	55	75
		98		61	961	981

As will readily be perceived, the commutations are exceedingly small, and for the credit of the Seventh District I regret it; yet inasmuch as twenty-four per cent of the whole number in this district have commuted, I think that our standing will be well up on the average.

I have strong hopes that when the Craft are fully informed of the action of the Grand Lodge at the last communication, with reference to commutations, and of the great benefits accruing from prompt action thereon, that they will come forward with renewed zeal, and avail themselves of this their last opportunity to commute the Capitation Tax, which may be done by paying seven dollars before July 1, 1870; after which time, by the aforesaid action of the Grand Lodge, no commutations will be allowed. The tax will be absolute for ten years from date, on every affiliated Mason in the jurisdiction, one dollar per year.

Hoping that another year will enable you and your coadjutors, by the help of the brethren, to relieve our Institution from her financial embarrassments, and thanking you for the high honor which you were pleased to confer upon me, I remain

Yours truly and fraternally,

HENRY P. PERKINS,

D.D.G.M. Seventh Masonic District.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit the following as my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Eighth District, for the year ending August 31, 1869.

In my official visits to the several Lodges of this district, I have been courteously and respectfully received as your representative.

My investigations have satisfied me that great caution and care have been observed by the Lodges in the selection of their candidates, and that they are firmly resolved that the standard of qualification for admission into our Fraternity shall not be lowered.

The Lodge rooms of all the Lodges appear to be well protected, in good condition, and properly furnished. Upon a careful inspection of the records, I find them exceedingly well kept and cared for.

In most of the Lodges the work is well up to the requirements of the Grand Lodge. Perhaps in one or two cases the services of a Grand Lecturer would be beneficial.

I have granted two Dispensations to confer a part of the degrees in less than the constitutional time, to enable the Lodges to finish work upon candidates that were about to leave town for an indefinite period. One to Pacific Lodge, for D. W. C. Perry, who was passed and raised June 22, and one to Republican Lodge, for Thomas Skinner, who was passed June 21, and raised February 4.

The number in this district who have commuted their capitation tax, as provided by the Grand Lodge, far exceeds all that has been done in the matter heretofore. In Orange Lodge, ninety-six out of one hundred and eight members, and in Pacific Lodge, eighty-four out of one hundred and fifteen members, with a few from other Lodges, have commuted the tax, and I have no doubt that if the privilege of commutation could be extended by the Grand Lodge, most of the Lodges in the district would do likewise.

I have granted no Dispensation to any Lodge to appear in public procession during the year, and I am not aware that any has done so, except to attend the funeral of its deceased members.

The matters contained in your circular of August 30 have been carefully noted and brought to the attention of the Lodges, and in but one or two instances have I found any deviation from the established customs, and a kindly suggestion to remind them of their neglect will undoubtedly prove all sufficient.

The utmost harmony prevails among all the brethren in all the Lodges, except Star Lodge, where there is some unpleasantness and misunderstanding which I hope will soon be removed.

In conclusion, I desire through you to express my grateful acknowledgments to the officers and members of the several Lodges of the Eighth District, for the uniform kindness and courtesy that they have extended to me during my intercourse with them, having been always

received with that cordiality which has ever been a distinguishing feature of the Masonic Fraternity.

Thanking you for the honor of the appointment of District Deputy Grand Master, I remain

Fraternally yours,

A. J. CLARK,

D.D.G.M. Eighth Masonic District.

ORANGE.

NINTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the pleasure to submit this my first report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Masonic District, for the year ending August 31, 1869.

I have visited all the Lodges in this district, including those working under a Dispensation, and find them all enjoying a reasonable degree of prosperity, with the exception of one Lodge, which appears to be under a cloud, but it is to be hoped will soon come out from under it into the sunshine of prosperity. I have witnessed an exemplification of the work in all the Lodges, and find it correct with the exception of the three mentioned in my supplementary report. Globe Lodge, under Dispensation, located at Hinsdale, is doing remarkably well, and I would recommend that a charter be granted upon proper application. The same may be said of Upton Lodge, also under Dispensation, located in Cheshire.

There has not been quite as many initiated in this district this year as last, but the number of members has been slightly increased, owing to many who have been suspended from membership, paying up their dues and being reinstated.

I have found much pleasure in my visits to the Lodges, and have been received with great kindness and courtesy by the brethren, and I trust with mutual profit to all concerned.

With many thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me by my appointment as deputy,

I am very respectfully and fraternally yours,

DANIEL UPTON,

D.D.G.M. Ninth Masonic District.

ADAMS, Nov. 25, 1869.

TENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I herewith submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Tenth Masonic District, which comprises twelve Lodges.

I have been unable on account of business to visit personally all of the Lodges in this district, but from previous visits and acquaintance with the officers of the various Lodges, I have no hesitation in saying that each Lodge is conforming strictly to the ritual of the Grand Lodge. I am confident no district within this jurisdiction is in any better condition on this point than the Tenth. Therefore I do not deem it necessary to particularize each Lodge, but have felt it my duty to commend each Lodge on my visitations for improvements noticed, and requested a continuance of zeal as manifested during the past year.

Mount Tom Lodge, Holyoke, has materially improved its hall, and is now one of the best in the district, and very handsomely furnished, which reflects great credit upon its members.

Mount Holyoke Lodge, South Hadley Falls (U.D.), is an offspring from Mount Tom Lodge, doing its work well on a goodly number of candidates, and is in good hands. Being unable to visit several of the Lodges in the eastern part of the district, I requested W. Bro. Geo. Robinson, of Palmer, to perform that duty, which he has done most acceptably, and his annexed report shows the condition of Lodges in that part of the district. I also authorized W. Bro. S. B. Spocner of Springfield to visit the Lodges in that city, who confirms previous good reports from those Lodges.

By invitation the officers, and I am happy to state many of the members of the several Lodges in this, and a number of officers of the Eighth District, met at Northampton, Oct. 28, with Jerusalem Lodge, who kindly offered the use of their hall for the purpose of instruction and witnessing an exemplification of the work and lectures by Lodges which had been selected for that purpose. W. Bro. Cephas Brigham, Grand Lecturer, was with us and imparted all necessary instruction upon the three degrees as they were worked at the close of each section. The degrees were conferred by the following Lodges: — the first by Chicopee Lodge, of Chicopee; the second by Roswell Lee Lodge, of Springfield; the third by Jerusalem Lodge, of Northampton, each Lodge performing the work assigned to the acceptance of all present, and receiving any and all corrections in a truly

masonic spirit. At the close of the second degree, all were invited to partake of what proved to be a very bountiful collation, provided by Jerusalem Lodge, and to which ample justice was done. Work resumed, the evening was spent upon the third degree, and remarks from W. Bro. Brigham, highly commending the labors of the day; also many officers expressed themselves highly satisfied with the meetings, and it was voted to meet again next year at such time and place as should be found convenient for the Lodges of this district.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to W. Bros. Robinson and Spooner for valuable aid rendered; also to the brethren of the several Lodges in the district for the courteous manner in which we have been received during our official visits.

Thanking you for the honor conferred in appointing me one of your deputies, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

D. W. CRAFTS.

NORTHAMPTON, Dec. 1, 1869.

PALMER, December 11, 1869.

R.W. BRO. D. W. CRAFTS, *D.D.G.M. Tenth Masonic District.*

You requested me to visit for you five Lodges, viz.: Hayden of Brookfield, Eden of Ware, Quaboag of Warren, Thomas of Palmer, and Day Spring of Monson. I have attended to the duties with much pleasure to myself, and report them in very good condition considering their history, four of them (all but Thomas) having been burned out with more or less loss. All are now in good halls, Hayden and Quaboag having elegant apartments. All are well fitted up, showing in their outfit and in their work a just pride in the Masonic Institution, while their attention to the business details of their Lodges and the spirit of harmony and good will manifest among the brethren, attest its beneficent results and guarantee their success. Eden Lodge, of Ware, requires an E. A. or F. C. to pass an examination in open Lodge, in those degrees, before being advanced. Under this regulation candidates are certain to make suitable proficiency. My thanks are due to the brethren of the above named Lodges for their kindly attention during my visits to them. Thanking you for the pleasure your request has conferred upon me, I am

Truly and fraternally yours,

GEORGE ROBINSON.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, *M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

MY DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — In assuming the duties of my present position, it was not without some misgivings of my own ability to discharge the very important duties in a manner alike satisfactory to yourself and beneficial to the interests of the Craft. But feeling it a duty to shrink from nothing where good can be accomplished, I herewith submit my Report for the Eleventh Masonic District.

It is a pleasure to be able to say that among the Lodges in this district an exceedingly good feeling prevails, and that they are apparently enjoying a high degree of prosperity, and becoming more and more useful to their brethren and fellows. I have officially visited each Lodge, either for the purpose of installing their officers (at their request), or by a regular official visit, having departed from the custom of installing officers and making an official visit at one and the same time, the better to enable me to carefully inspect or instruct the Lodge. I find an earnest and growing desire on the part of every Lodge, that there may be established a proper and more uniform manner of doing business and work, and more than this that the records may be more uniform and masonically correct.

On the occasion of my official visit, the number present were as follows: —

Lodges.	Brethren.	Members.
Morning Star	52	45
Mount Zion	32	26
Trinity	26	21
Montacute	64	53
Wilder	15	15
United Brethren	36	31
Quinebaug	18	13
Doric	8	7
Athelstane	43	35
North Star	24	23
St. Bernard	26	20

My visits to Doric, Wilder, and Quinebaug Lodges were made at special meetings, and in some cases at so short a notice that some members residing at a distance failed to receive their notice. In Doric Lodge there was a misunderstanding in regard to the time of my visit, which accounts for the small number present in this, one of the best Lodges in the district.

I do not find the services of a Grand Lecturer needed in any of the

Lodges, although I have recommended to several Masters the propriety of consulting the Grand Lecturer on some mooted points.

I have granted during the year two Dispensations for the conferring of degrees to Montacute Lodge, of Worcester; one to Trinity Lodge, of Clinton, to appear in public procession and perform the funeral obsequies of a deceased brother. Other requests for Dispensations have been refused; the reasons alleged for them did not seem to me sufficient to warrant a departure from the ordinary rules and regulations of the Craft. I have installed the officers of all the Lodges where the elections have been held previous to this Report. Those of Doric, St. Bernard, Wilder, Quinebaug, Mount Zion, and Montacute have been public. There is a good feeling in all the subordinate Lodges toward the Grand Lodge, but no prospect, in my opinion, of any general commuting of the Grand Lodge assessment, except by such Lodges as have already done so for their members. They will continue the same policy for all that may be added.

There is a marked improvement in the work of the Lodges, each one striving to have business and work done *just right*. It has been my purpose to carefully observe all the instructions you have given me, and can say that in all cases where I have not specially mentioned above, the Lodges were already correct or at once took the necessary steps to become so. I would recommend a new division of Districts No. Ten and Eleven, as, at present constituted, this district is very inconvenient to visit, no matter where the deputy may be located.

In conclusion, permit me to tender you my thanks for the confidence you have reposed in me. I also wish to thank the officers and members of the several Lodges for their cordial greeting always given me, and particularly those brethren who have so often accompanied me, together with the Lodges of my own city, which have extended their generous and cordial support. I am respectfully and

Fraternally yours,

CHARLES G. REED,

District Deputy of the Eleventh Masonic District.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

TO WILLIAM S. GARDNER, *M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — According to the requirements of our Constitutions, I herewith submit the Report of my doings (in brief) as D.D.G.M. of the Twelfth Masonic District, in which capacity you deemed proper to place me.

All of the Lodges in the district I have personally officially visited, and it gives me pleasure to report a commendable degree of correctness in the ritual of our work in *all* cases, and in *some* of the Lodges an exceedingly pleasant, smooth, and prompt rendering.

On the 26th of April last, I received printed copies of the address delivered by the Grand Master before the Grand Lodge, March 10, 1869, and distributed them throughout the district, and I am convinced that this address has had a salutary effect in rendering it more pleasant for Lodges to collect the dues from the brethren, and in exciting a greater willingness on the part of the Lodges to come forward and bear their part in the burden which we find imposed upon us. In this connection let me report all of the Lodges in the Twelfth District, save one, have paid the amount due from them, Blackstone River Lodge paying an assessment amount only equal to such sum as had been actually paid in by about one third of its members.

I have granted no Dispensations during the time I have been in office.

The number of initiates the past year is not so large as in the year preceding, notwithstanding Middlesex Lodge has been added to the district.

All of my official relations have been exceedingly pleasant, and on the part of the brethren most cordial, which has rendered the duties of my office agreeable.

Subjoined is the report in detail of such matters as were desired by the Grand Master as made known by official circular, (not noting where conformity or other circumstance renders it unnecessary.)

Lodges.	Members.	No. present.
Middlesex	25	37
Solomon's Temple	15	30
Oxford	21	24
Webster	17	20
Franklin	39	100
Montgomery	60	60
Olive Branch	39	35
Mount Hollis	20	23
Excelsior	35	43
Siloam	30	77
Blackstone River	29	33
John Warren	19	21

No Lodge in the district has appeared in public procession for other purpose than the burial of its dead. Respectfully submitted.

Fraternally yours,

GEORGE E. STACY,

D.D.G.M. Twelfth District.

MILFORD, Nov. 29, 1869.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I herewith submit my Annual Report as D.D.G. Master of the Thirteenth Masonic District.

In accordance with the requirements of the Constitutions, and in conformity with your circular letter of August 30, 1869, I have visited every Lodge within the limits of my district, and carefully inspected the work, records, and other matters appertaining to the Grand Lodge, and it affords me pleasure to report, in general terms, the excellent condition of the Lodges everywhere evinced.

The work as exemplified indicates careful attention to the ritual on the part of the officers, and in nearly every case is a close approximation to the Grand Lodge work. The work of Ionic Lodge, Taunton, I have never seen surpassed in any Lodge. This is a young Lodge, composed largely of young and enthusiastic Masons, evidently disposed to be satisfied with nothing short of perfection. All seem to take a lively interest in the work, and the result, as might be expected from such a condition of things, is exceedingly gratifying.

The whole number initiated in all the Lodges is twenty in excess of the previous year. The aggregate membership has increased 105.

The following table shows the number present at my official visits: —

Lodges.	Members.	No. present.
Bristol	60	61
King David	51	57
Rising Sun	24	27
St. Albans	42	47
Orient	39	55
Blue Hill	21	28
St. James	38	73
Hyde Park	50	93
Alfred Baylies	32	36
Ionic	44	102
Paul Dean	28	45

The rule requiring permission to be obtained from the W. Master before entering or retiring from the Lodge while in session, I have found "more honored in the breach than the observance." The older brethren respect the rule even where it is not enforced, and their example has been commended to the rest, many of whom, though generally well informed in the rules of masonry, have grown up in ignorance of this one.

My official intercourse with the Lodges has been pleasant throughout.

Nothing has occurred to mar the kindly relations which I have everywhere found existing between the brethren and the Grand Lodge, and every opportunity has been improved for extending them.

The duty of visiting so many Lodges so widely scattered, and at a busy season of the year, is by no means a light one. Yet looking back upon it and remembering the uniform courtesy with which, as the representative of the Grand Lodge, I have been received, I cannot but feel that it has been a profitable experience to all concerned.

Dispensations, the applications for which have set forth a proper emergency, have been granted as follows: —

January 1, Ionic Lodge, to initiate and craft Henry S. Andrews on same evening.

February 12, Bristol Lodge, to initiate and craft Wm. W. Waterman on same evening.

February 23, Bristol Lodge, to raise Bro. Thomas R. Nye two weeks before the regular time.

March 3, Rising Star Lodge, to craft and raise Bro. Horace M. Porter before the regular time.

July 19, St. James Lodge, to raise Bro. F. B. Hodges one month before regular time.

October 12, Ionic Lodge, to craft and raise Bro. M. D. Luscom before regular time.

November 22, Orient Lodge, to initiate and craft Patrick Mack on same evening.

Respectfully submitted,

J. MASON EVERETT,

D.D.G.M. Thirteenth Masonic District.

BOSTON, Dec. 15, 1869.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, M.W.G. Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourteenth Masonic District.

I have officially visited every Lodge in the district and, as requested, have carefully examined their By-Laws, records, and mode of work, and reported the facts in regard to the same in my accompanying report.

I have also received the annual returns from each of the said Lodges, and have transmitted the same to the R. W. Grand Treasurer.

In my visits I have been gratified to observe a much better feeling towards the Grand Lodge in regard to the capitation tax. The plain and efficient manner in which the M.W. Grand Master has laid before the Grand Lodge its condition, if carried out, will insure perfect harmony among the brethren.

My visits have been to me a source of knowledge and pleasure, not only on account of the hospitality extended to me as the representative of the Grand Lodge, but also the information obtained; and I trust that I shall recall my duties as District Deputy Grand Master of the Fourteenth District in the future with gratification and pleasure.

The following table will show the number present at my official visits.

Lodges.	Members.	No. present.
Pythagorean	19 . . .	90
Hount Hope	36 . . .	71
King Philip	31 . . .	87
Eureka	31 . . .	44
Pioneer	13 . . .	13
Oriental	13 . . .	14
Martha's Vineyard	18 . . .	22
Marine	12 . . .	13
Star in the East	58 . . .	88
May Flower	29 . . .	32

Fraternally yours,

JOHN A. LEE,

D.D.G.M. Fourteenth District.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, *M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit the following as my report as District Deputy Grand Master for the Fifteenth Masonic District, for the year ending Sept. 1, 1869.

It is very gratifying for me to be able to say that the Lodges in this district are in a very prosperous and sound condition, the work in the Lodges being uniformly good.

The present officers manifest a strong desire to perfect themselves in the ritual and are using their best efforts to keep up the harmony and interest which our institution aims to inculcate and perpetuate.

The work in the Lodges generally throughout the district is in accordance with the Grand Lodge requirements, and in none of them do

I consider the services of the Grand Lecturer absolutely necessary. But from the fact that several of the Lodges propose to make a change in some of the officers at their next election, it would be beneficial to the Lodges, as well as assist the new officers, to have the Grand Lecturers visit some of them.

No Lodge in this district has appeared in public procession during the year except to attend the funeral of a deceased member, in which cases it has never been the practice in this district to ask for a Dispensation from the District Deputy.

Some Dispensations have been granted, and those in extreme cases when the candidate was about to go to sea for a long voyage, which happens more frequently in this district than in most others in this Commonwealth, owing to the particular calling and vocation of the brethren. To this cause also the Lodges in this district claim their excuse for not responding more promptly in commuting the Grand Lodge tax.

The following Dispensations have been granted to the several Lodges in this district, to confer the degrees in less than the usual required time.

KING HIRAM, Provincetown. — Sept. 6, Joseph S. Hopkins; Dec. 26, Sylvester D. Rich; Jan. 10, Joshua H. Ryder; Jan. 15, Michael Kehoe.

MOUNT HOREB, West Harwich. — Nov. 2, Horatio Chase; Nov. 4, Uriel Doane, Jr.; Jan. 20, Van Buren Chase; Feb. 10, Plinny Crowell.

DE WITT CLINTON, Sandwich. — Sept. 7, Eugene Perry; Dec. 10, J. P. Harper; March 27, John Parkwood; May 9, James Cox.

FRATERNAL, Hyannis. — Feb. 1, Horace F. Hallett; Aug. 16, David W. Crocker.

JAMES OTIS, Barnstable. — June 12, Davis Annabell.

PILGRIM, Harwich. — Jan. 25, Webster Rogers.

The reasons given for the necessity of asking for all the above Dispensations was that the candidates were about to go away to sea on long voyages.

Thanking you for the honor of the appointment,

I remain respectfully and fraternally yours,

J. K. BAKER, JR.,

D.D.G.M. Fifteenth Masonic District.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, *M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER, — I have the honor to submit to you my report as District Deputy Grand Master of the Sixteenth Masonic District.

I have officially visited each Lodge of the district, and in compliance with your instructions, carefully examined their condition, and it gives me pleasure to report that all are prospering, both as to work and finances. As your representative I have been courteously received, and every assistance rendered that could be desired. An earnest desire is manifested throughout the district to have the work conform to the requirements of the Grand Lodge. The number of initiates exceeds that of last year.

I regret that in consequence of the miscarriage of the blanks sent to two of the Lodges, I was unable to transmit my returns to the Grand Treasurer within the specified time. Thanking you for the honor of the appointment,

I remain truly and fraternally yours,

Z. L. BICKNELL,

D.D.G.M. Sixteenth Masonic District.

WEYMOUTH, December, 1869.

REPORTS OF GRAND LECTURERS.

GROTON JUNCTION, Dec. 27, 1869.

M.W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER.

MY DEAR BROTHER,—My business has been such during the past year that, until recently, I have not been able to devote much time to instruction in the work and lectures of the three degrees.

Delegates from Mount Zion Lodge, Barre; Chicopee Lodge, Chicopee; Morning Star, Montacute, and Athelstane, Worcester; and Mount Vernon, Belchertown, have visited me and we have rehearsed carefully the work and lectures. I have been much gratified with the ability of the brethren representing the above Lodges, and have no doubt that they have thoroughly communicated the result of our conference to their members.

December 3. Visited Artisan Lodge, Winchendon. Rehearsed the lecture and work of the E.A. degree during the afternoon.

Evening, Initiated George Hervey Stanley, and installed the officers of the Lodge for the year ensuing, assisted by Wor. John G. Folsom as Grand Marshal. R.W. Andrew J. Clark, D.D. G.M. for the Eighth Masonic District, made his official visit to the Lodge this evening, and by his presence added much to the interest of the occasion. The Lodge appeared well, and will compare favorably with other Lodges in the jurisdiction.

December 9. Wor. Cephas Brigham and Wor. A. F. Chapman, my associates as Grand Lecturers, assisted me in exemplifying the lectures and work of the three degrees before the Grand

Lodge. We were ably supported by the brethren who filled the several offices on that occasion, and were complimented by having a large and an attentive number of the brethren present during the day.

December 14. Visited Aberdour Lodge, Boston, and installed the officers. After the installation, the new officers conferred the degree of M.M. very impressively, previous to which the candidate was examined in the lecture of the F.C. degree, and deservedly received the approbation of the W.M. for his proficiency. It was very gratifying to witness the correct working of this Lodge. The W.M. has been a diligent student in the work and lectures of the Lodge, and is already an accomplished presiding officer. After the close of the Lodge we had an hour of refreshments, during which so many good things were said by the brethren present that this brief report cannot contain them; but they are recorded in the memories of those present, where they will remain "till time shall be no more."

December 21. Met with the Lodges in the City of Worcester, in their fine hall. In the morning, Athelstan Lodge exemplified the lecture and work of the E.A. degree. In the afternoon, Morning Star Lodge exemplified the lecture and work of the F.C. degree. In the afternoon and evening, Montacute Lodge exemplified the lecture and work of the M.M. degree. There were about one hundred and fifty brethren present.

The lectures were delivered very finely, and the work was performed in a creditable manner. These Lodges breathe the true masonic spirit, and are actuated by the desire to see "who best can work and best agree."

The music during the work of the degrees was of very high order, and while passing the social hour in the banquet hall, after the close of the Lodge, the Quartette Club discoursed some of their choicest selections. We closed this pleasant meeting by joining hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne."

December 22 and 23. Visited Solomon's Temple Lodge, Uxbridge. Rehearsed the lectures and work of the three degrees,

initiated Rev. John Wilson Dick of North Uxbridge, and raised Bro. Benjamin Loring Benson of Upton. Several of the members of this Lodge lecture very correctly, and after more study and practice in the work will be prepared to confer the degrees in a most impressive manner.

There are a few corrections in the work and lectures which, if made, would restore some highly impressive portions of the degrees. These corrections are alterations or omissions which have been made by mistake, most likely, and could be brought before the Grand Lodge at any regular communication if desired.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

E. DANA BANCROFT,

Senior Grand Lecturer.

To WILLIAM S. GARDNER, M.W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—At the commencement of the present masonic year, you instructed the Grand Lecturers each to report to the Grand Master his proceedings, together with such observations and suggestions as might seem appropriate at the close of his term of appointment.

In obedience to those instructions, I have the pleasure to submit the following statement, accompanied by a few thoughts and suggestions as to the method of perfecting our ritual and making it uniform in all our Lodges, a condition of things greatly to be desired.

During the past three or four months I have been frequently consulted upon portions of the *work* and *lectures* in masonry, and have given instructions to Masters and other officers of several Lodges, averaging from one to two lessons per week, during that period. The zeal displayed by those seeking instruction and the desire for accurate information, have made my duties pleasant,

and have rendered those interviews pleasing and, I trust, profitable.

By an arrangement of R.W. Bro. Crafts, D.D.G.M. for the Tenth Masonic District, the officers of the several Lodges comprising that district met with Jerusalem Lodge at Northampton, on the 28th of October last, for the purpose of witnessing an exemplification of the *work* on the three degrees, as given by Lodges within the district, selected for that purpose, under the direction and instruction of one of the grand lecturers.

The first degree was assigned to and worked by Roswell Lee Lodge of Springfield. The method pursued was as follows : —

First — Opening ceremonies of the Lodge on this degree, followed by corrections and suggestions.

Second — Work in conferring the degree, followed by questions and answers as to parts of the work, corrections, etc. After which the ceremonies of the degree were concluded, followed by such reviews, corrections, and suggestions as were deemed necessary.

To Chicopee Lodge was assigned the second degree. The method pursued was the same as in the first degree. At the conclusion of this degree we were called from labor to real and substantial refreshment, — Jerusalem Lodge having provided a bountiful collation for the entertainment of the several delegations. When our repast was concluded, the brethren re-assembled and a M.M. Lodge was opened by Jerusalem Lodge, and the ceremonies of the third degree were given, followed by corrections and suggestions at *regular intervals* as in the preceding degrees. All appeared to be very much interested and pleased with the success attending the occasion. It was, in truth, a pleasant gathering and, it is to be hoped, a profitable meeting.

It has occurred to me that an annual assembly of the Lodges comprising a district under the direction of the D.D.G. Master, aided by one of the Grand Lecturers, the same being for the purposes of the one above mentioned, may be productive of great good to the Order in several ways : —

First, and chief. The great number receiving instruction, under the same circumstances and at the same time. Those instructions carried home to the several Lodges will result, it seems to me, in greater uniformity of work.

Second. The tendency of such gatherings will be to secure greater harmony among Masons, by strangers becoming acquaintances and friends.

Third. They beget that earnestness and attention to the *ritual* which can but result in more intelligence in masonry, its work, lectures, and requirements, the general want of which in the Order is to be deprecated. These meetings should not, however, be made to supersede the annual visitation of the D.D.G. Master in any respect, — one of the prime objects of which is, and should be, to ascertain the *working status* of the Lodge. I found the work, as represented at Northampton, to be nearly that, in most respects, required by the Grand Lodge; yet there is opportunity for improvement. My visit was altogether a pleasant one, and I should not object to a repetition of the same whenever circumstances may require.

Before closing this report I wish to allude briefly to a matter which is, as it ever has been, of great interest to the Fraternity: namely, the standard or authorized *work in masonry*. It is sometimes said, and with some reason for the assertion, that the *work*, as exemplified by the lecturers, is varied from time to time, so that it is impossible to determine what is and what is not the authorized work. This may be true, or it may not. But should it so happen that the work, as given, varies in any essential degree from the authorized Grand Lodge work, then to have a standard for reference is well. Happily we have such an authorized standard. I refer to the work adopted in 1862. To ascertain what that work is, shall be my duty as well as my pleasure. Holding, as I most firmly do, that as one of the grand lecturers of the Grand Lodge, I have no right to change the ritual of masonry, but simply to *instruct and give as the Grand Lodge does, or shall require*.

Thanking you for the honor of a second appointment, and wishing you abundant success in the high position to which you have been, with such marked unanimity, re-elected, I remain,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

CEPHAS BRIGHAM,

Junior Grand Lecturer.

AUBURNDALE, Dec. 20, 1869.

To M. W. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER, — In accepting the office to which you were pleased to appoint me, I had some doubts as to whether I could discharge the duties appertaining to it in such a manner as to satisfy myself or the wishes of the brethren.

On reflection, however, I called to mind the authority from which I received my commission, and the latest vote of the Grand Lodge on the subject of my duties, [to the effect, that the Grand Lecturers should teach the work as exhibited in 1862,] and having assisted Worshipful Brothers E. Dana Bancroft and Charles C. Dame, in the exemplification of that year, I felt partially prepared for the work. Having since met my associate lecturers in consultation, I am happy to report that we shall be as near alike in the exemplification on December 9, 1869, as it is possible for three persons to be, there being but a very few words which either would wish to render different; and even these may be regarded as of minor importance.

In February last I spent four days with the Worshipful Master and brethren of Corner Stone Lodge at Duxbury, and instructed them in the work and lectures of each of the three degrees.

In April last I visited Golden Fleece Lodge at Lynn, on four successive evenings, and exhibited the work and lectures of the degree.

I also spent an evening with Washington Lodge, Boston Highlands, for the same purpose.

In each of these Lodges I found a great degree of interest in the ritual, as well as in the prosperity of the Lodge; each possesses a sufficient and intelligent membership, and are equally a credit to themselves and the Craft in general.

I have instructed a number of brethren on specific points, and occasionally an officer of a Lodge in the duties of his office, from one of whom I learn that quite a difference of opinion exists in regard to the correct rendering of the ritual, which can easily be corrected by securing proper instruction by the Lodges in his immediate locality.

From the Lodges and from the brethren I have received the utmost kindness, and feel grateful to them, one and all, for the readiness with which they have received and adopted whatever I have suggested for their improvement.

Whenever referred to, all have been unanimous in the hope that no changes would be tolerated in the ritual, and to this end I have been careful to suggest none.

Thanking you for the appointment you were pleased to make in my case, allow me to remain,

Yours fraternally,

A. F. CHAPMAN,

Grand Lecturer.

Boston, Dec. 8, 1869.

LODGES BY DISTRICTS.

TABLE

SHOWING THE NUMBER OF INITIATES FROM SEPTEMBER 1, 1868, TO
SEPTEMBER 1, 1869, WITH THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN
EACH LODGE, SEPTEMBER 1, 1869, AND THE
MONTH OF ANNUAL ELECTION.

DISTRICT No. I. (BOSTON.)

R.W. ANDREW G. SMITH, BOSTON, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
ST. JOHN'S	1788	Boston	21	860	December
ST. ANDREW'S . . .	1756	"	4	40	November
MASSACHUSETTS . .	1770	"	9	210	December
COLUMBIAN	1796	"	16	322	December
MOUNT LEBANON . .	1801	"	18	297	December
GERMANIA	1855	"	7	88	January
WINSLOW LEWIS . .	1856	"	15	64	November
REVERE	1856	"	8	165	December
JOSEPH WARREN . .	1857	"	30	334	December
ABERDOUR	1861	"	8	70	November
ELEUSIS	1865	"	5	50	December
ZETLAND	1867	"	4	49	December
			145	2,049	

DISTRICT NO. II. (CHARLESTOWN.)

R.W. TRACY P CHEEVER, CHELSEA, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
KING SOLOMON'S . . .	1783	Charlestown . .	12 .	236	October
HIRAM	1797	Arlington . . .	11 .	184	November
MOUNT CARMEL . . .	1805	Lynn	15 .	175	December
STAR OF BETHLEHEM .	1843	Chelsea	11 .	203	November
MOUNT HERMON . . .	1855	Medford	8 .	124	January
WYOMING	1857	Melrose	12 .	197	September
HENRY PRICE	1858	Charlestown . .	13 .	176	October
MOUNT VERNON . . .	1858	Malden	14 .	175	October
JOHN ABBOT	1858	Somerville . . .	13 .	178	December
GOLDEN FLEECE . . .	1865	Lynn	11 .	99	December
WILLIAM SUTTON . . .	1867	Saugus	8 .	51	December
ROBERT LASH	1867	Chelsea	7 .	38	November
FAITH	1869	Charlestown . .	24 .	19	December
PALESTINE	1869	Malden			

154 1,855

DISTRICT NO. III. (BOSTON HIGHLANDS.)

R.W. BENJAMIN POPE, SOUTH BOSTON, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
UNION	1796	Dorchester . . .	5 .	174	December
WASHINGTON	1797	Boston Highlands	28 .	231	November
MOUNT TABOR	1846	East Boston . . .	17 .	241	November
ST. PAUL'S	1847	South Boston . .	8 .	201	December
BAALBEC	1853	East Boston . . .	5 .	161	March
GATE OF THE TEMPLE	1856	South Boston . .	11 .	168	November
HAMMATT	1860	East Boston . . .	6 .	83	December
LA FAYETTE	1866	Boston Highlands	11 .	52	June
ADELPHI	1866	South Boston . .	13 .	66	December
ELIOT	1867	West Roxbury . .	9 .	47	May
RABBONI (U.D.). . .		South Boston . .			

108 1,424

DISTRICT No. IV. (CAMBRIDGE.)

R.W. F. LYMAN WINSHIP, BRIGHTON, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
CORINTHIAN	1797	Concord	1 .	61	October
MERIDIAN	1797	Natick	13 .	121	October
AMICABLE	1805	Cambridgeport . .	8 .	201	December
BETHESDA	1819	Brighton	10 .	83	December
MONITOR	1820	Waltham	11 .	136	November
PUTNAM	1854	East Cambridge .	13 .	105	December
PEQUOSSETTE	1857	Watertown	5 .	91	December
DALHOUSIE	1861	Newtonville . . .	19 .	145	June
MOUNT OLIVET	1864	Cambridge	14 .	109	November
BELMONT	1865	Belmont	13 .	85	March
ISAAC PARKER	1868	Waltham	8 .	52	April
MIZPAH	1868	Cambridgeport . .	9 .	77	
CHARITY (U.D.). . . .		North Cambridge			
			<hr/>	<hr/>	
			124	1,216	

DISTRICT No. V. (SALEM.)

R.W. GEORGE H. PEIRSON, SALEM, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
PHILANTHROPIC	1760	Marblehead	5 .	105	December
TYRIAN	1770	Gloucester	20 .	148	November
ESSEX	1779	Salem	11 .	179	December
JORDAN	1808	South Danvers . .	7 .	112	November
LIBERTY	1824	Beverly	13 .	143	December
ASHLER	1852	Rockport	15 .	115	January
AMITY	1863	Danvers	9 .	130	September
STARR KING	1865	Salem	2 .	93	November
JOHN T. HEARD	1865	Ipswich	8 .	84	December
ACACIA	1866	Gloucester	9 .	77	June
			<hr/>	<hr/>	
			101	1,186	

DISTRICT No. VI. (NEWBURYPORT.)

R.W. JAMES E. GALE, HAVERHILL, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
ST. JOHN'S	1766	Newburyport . .	14 .	100	March
MERRIMAC	1802	Haverhill	5 .	176	November
ST. MARK'S	1803	Newburyport . .	15 .	114	September
WARREN	1822	Amesbury	20 .	134	September
ST. MATTHEW'S . . .	1822	Andover	7 .	86	December
GRECIAN	1825	Lawrence	11 .	259	September
JOHN HANCOCK . . .	1860	Methuen	5 .	79	September
TUSCAN	1863	Lawrence	20 .	174	September
SAGGAHEW	1865	Haverhill	6 .	101	December
CHARLES C. DAME . .	1867	Georgetown	17 .	78	January
BETHANY (U.D.) . . .		West Amesbury . .			
. . . (U.D.)		Lawrence			
			120	1,296	

DISTRICT No. VII. (LOWELL.)

R.W. HENRY P. PERKINS, LOWELL, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
ST. PAUL'S	1797	Groton	5 .	88	October
AURORA	1801	Fitchburg	2 .	125	September
PENTUCKET	1807	Lowell	15 .	253	October
ANCIENT YORK	1853	Lowell	9 .	187	October
MOUNT HOREB	1855	Woburn	6 .	93	December
CALEB BUTLER	1859	Groton Junction . .	5 .	67	October
WILLIAM PARKMAN . .	1865	Winchester	5 .	58	January
CHARLES W. MOORE . .	1866	Fitchburg	4 .	47	September
KILWINNING	1867	Lowell	4 .	38	November
WILLIAM NORTH . . .	1868	Lowell	9 .	76	October
			64	981	

DISTRICT No. VIII. (GREENFIELD.)

R.W. ANDREW J. CLARK, ORANGE, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
REPUBLICAN	1795	Greenfield	10 .	183	November
HARMONY	1796	Northfield	5 .	58	November
PACIFIC	1801	Amherst	9 .	115	November
MOUNTAIN	1806	Shelburne Falls . .	4 .	81	November
BETHEL	1825	Enfield	5 .	61	November
ORANGE	1860	Orange	8 .	108	November
HOPE	1865	Gardner	9 .	73	October
STAR	1865	Athol	145 .	80	November
ARTISAN	1866	Winchendon	4 .	43	June
MORNING SUN (U.D.)		Conway			
MOUNT VERNON (U.D.)		Belchertown			
			69	797	

DISTRICT No. IX. (PITTSFIELD.)

R.W. DANIEL UPTON, SOUTH ADAMS, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
EVENING STAR	1795	Lee	0 .	37	September
CINCINNATUS	1795	Great Barrington .	11 .	118	December
LAFAYETTE	1796	North Adams . . .	21 .	111	November
WISDOM	1803	West Stockbridge .	9 .	46	December
MYSTIC	1810	Pittsfield	12 .	180	November
MOUNT MORIAH	1856	Westfield	16 .	181	September
BERKSHIRE	1858	South Adams . . .	3 .	69	November
HUNTINGTON.	1867	Huntington	18 .	82	December
GLOBE (U.D.)		Hinsdale			
UPTON (U.D.)		Cheshire			
			85	724	

DISTRICT NO. X. (SPRINGFIELD.)

R.W. SAMUEL B. SPOONER, SPRINGFIELD, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
THOMAS	1796	Palmer	3 .	81	November
JERUSALEM	1797	Northampton	27 .	238	November
HAMPDEN	1817	Springfield	30 .	192	November
CHICOPEE	1848	Chicopee	29 .	198	November
MOUNT TOM	1850	Holyoke	18 .	166	November
QUABOAG	1859	Warren	13 .	81	January
DAY SPRING	1863	Monson	6 .	39	December
HAYDEN	1863	Brookfield	19 .	81	November
ROSWELL LEE	1863	Springfield	32 .	196	November
EDEN	1865	Ware	2 .	46	November
IONIC	1868	East Hampton	14 .	74	November
MOUNT HOLYOKE (U.D.)		South Hadley			
			198	1,392	

DISTRICT NO. XI. (WORCESTER.)

R.W. CHARLES G. REED, WORCESTER, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
MORNING STAR	1798	Worcester	10 .	266	December
MOUNT ZION	1800	Barre	5 .	107	September
TRINITY	1858	Clinton	13 .	109	September
MONTACUTE	1859	Worcester	23 .	246	November
UNITED BRETHERN	1860	Marlboro'	14 .	103	November
QUINEBAUG	1860	Southbridge	11 .	76	September
WILDER	1860	Hudson	8 .	90	September
DORIC	1864	Ashland	7 .	95	January
NORTH STAR	1865	Ashland	1 .	70	November
ATHELSTONE	1866	Worcester	14 .	101	November
ST. BERNARD	1868	Southboro'	6 .	24	September
			112	1,237	

DISTRICT No. XII. (MILFORD.)

R.W. GEORGE E. STACY, MILFORD, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
MIDDLESEX	1795	Framingham . . .	11 .	62	November
MONTGOMERY	1797	Milford	12 .	181	October
OLIVE BRANCH	1797	Sutton	8 .	109	October
SOLOMON'S TEMPLE	1818	Uxbridge	11 .	107	November
FRANKLIN	1852	Grafton	8 .	75	November
BLACKSTONE RIVER	1856	Blackstone	8 .	91	November
WEBSTER	1859	Webster	6 .	97	September
OXFORD	1860	Oxford	4 .	55	September
JOHN WARREN	1861	Hopkinton	8 .	74	October
MOUNT HOLLIS	1865	Holliston	4 .	72	December
SILLOAM	1867	Westboro	8 .	55	November
EXCELSIOR	1867	Franklin	7 .	55	March
			95	1,088	

DISTRICT No. XIII. (TAUNTON.)

R.W. J. MASON EVERETT, CANTON, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
BRISTOL	1797	Attleboro' . . .	27 .	115	December
KING DAVID	1798	Taunton	20 .	216	November
RISING STAR	1799	Stoughton	10 .	98	December
ST. ALBAN'S	1818	Foxboro'	9 .	125	July
ORIENT	1862	Dedham	12 .	102	January
BLUE HILL	1864	Canton	7 .	42	November
ST. JAMES'	1865	Mansfield	9 .	72	March
ALFRED BAYLIES	1866	Taunton	13 .	88	October
HYDE PARK	1866	Hyde Park	20 .	67	December
IONIC	1867	Taunton	10 .	65	November
PAUL DEAN	1868	N. Easton	2 .	46	March
			139	1,026	

DISTRICT No. XIV. (NEW BEDFORD.)

R.W. JOHN A. LEE, NEW BEDFORD, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
MARINE	1798	Falmouth	4 .	45	December
STAR IN THE EAST	1823	New Bedford . . .	16 .	316	December
MOUNT HOPE	1824	Fall River	21 .	206	November
EUREKA	1858	New Bedford . . .	9 .	181	January
MARTHA'S VINEYARD	1860	Tisbury	2 .	74	January
PYTHAGOREAN	1863	Marion	3 .	55	December
PIONEER	1864	Somerset	11 .	95	November
MAY FLOWER	1865	Middleboro'	11 .	89	December
KING PHILIP	1866	Fall River	15 .	101	November
ORIENTAL	1867	Edgartown	4 .	36	December
				<hr/> 96	<hr/> 1,198

DISTRICT No. XV. (BARNSTABLE.)

R.W. JOSEPH K. BAKER, JR., DENNISPORT, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
UNION	1771	Nantucket	4 .	110	December
KING HIRAM	1796	Provincetown . . .	18 .	155	November
FRATERNAL	1801	Hyannis	7 .	164	January
SOCIAL HARMONY	1823	Wareham	4 .	76	December
MT. HOREB	1855	West Harwich . . .	17 .	129	December
DEWITT CLINTON	1856	Sandwich	7 .	60	December
PILGRIM	1860	So. Harwich	9 .	141	December
JAMES OTIS	1866	Barnstable	9 .	59	October
ADAMS	1866	Wellfleet	6 .	78	January
HOWARD (U.D.)		South Yarmouth			
				<hr/> 81	<hr/> 967

DISTRICT No. XVI. (PLYMOUTH.)

R.W. Z. L. BICKNELL, WEYMOUTH, D.D.G.M.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.	Initiates.	Members.	Election.
OLD COLONY	1792	Hingham	11 .	91	December
FELLOWSHIP	1797	Bridgewater	11 .	118	September
RURAL	1801	Quincy	4 .	180	November
CORNER STONE	1803	Duxbury	4 .	62	November
NORFOLK UNION	1819	Randolph	7 .	67	November
ORPHAN'S HOPE	1825	Weymouth	7 .	137	May
PLYMOUTH	1825	Plymouth	10 .	106	November
PAUL REVERE	1857	North Bridgewater	17 .	132	December
JOHN CUTLER	1860	Abington	17 .	137	September
KONOHASSETT	1866	Cohasset	12 .	65	January
DELTA	1869	Weymouth	18 .	46	October
PURITAN (U.D.)		Abington			
			118	1,091	

GEORGE H. KENDALL, VALPARAISO, DEPUTY FOR CHILI, S. A.

Name of Lodge.	Charter.	Location.
BETHESDA	1854	Valparaiso, South America.
*HIRAM	1858	Caldera, " "
ACONCAGUA (U.D.) . . . . .	. . . . .	Valparaiso, " "

*Removed from Copiapo.

WM. C. BLANCHARD, SHANGHAI, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR CHINA.

	Charter.	Location.	Members.
ANCIENT LANDMARK	1864	Shanghai.	59

RICHARD H. HARTLEY, LIMA, SPECIAL DEPUTY FOR PERU.

J. L. HUTCHINSON Arica.

RECAPITULATION.

	Initiates.	Members.
District No. 1	145	2,049
District No. 2	154	1,855
District No. 8	108	1,424
District No. 4	124	1,216
District No. 5	101	1,186
District No. 6	120	1,296
District No. 7	64	981
District No. 8	69	797
District No. 9	85	724
District No. 10	193	1,392
District No. 11	112	1,287
District No. 12	95	1,033
District No. 13	139	1,026
District No. 14	96	1,198
District No. 15	81	967
District No. 16	118	1,091
Ancient Landmark		59
Total	<u>1,804</u>	<u>19,581</u>

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF

LODGES, LOCATION, AND SECRETARIES.

Lodges.	Location.	Secretary.
Aberdour	Boston	Sidney Cushing.
Acacia	Gloucester	A. Mansfield, jr.
Adams	Wellfleet	G. W. Holbrook.
Adelphi	South Boston	William C. Culver.
Alfred Baylies	Taunton	Edwin S. Staples.
Amicable	Cambridgeport	Charles Tufts.
Amity	Danvers	T. C. Everett.
Ancient York	Lowell	Richard W. Baker.
Ancient Landmark	Shanghai	
Artisan	Winchenden	David H. Barnes.
Ashler	Rockport	John H. Higgins.
Athelstane	Worcester	Courtland T. Webb.
Aurora	Fitchburg	Henry F. Piper.
Baalbec	East Boston	Edward F. Brigham.
Belmont	Belmont	William W. Mead.
Berkshire	South Adams	Daniel Lapham.
Bethel	Enfield	Charles Richards.
Bethany	West Amesbury	W. B. Whittier.
Bethesda	Brighton	J. T. Needham.
Bethesda	Valparaiso, Chili, S.A.	
Blackstone River	Blackstone	George H. Bates.
Blue Hill	Canton	William Bense.
Bristol	Attleboro'	John T. Bates.
Caleb Butler	Groton Junction	Frank M. Lund.
Charles C. Dame	Georgetown	Thomas A. Perley.

Charles W. Moore	Fitchburg	Henry Allison.
Chicopee	Chicopee	Moses C. Hadley.
Cincinnatus	Great Barrington	Claudius M. Jones.
Columbian	Boston	William Martin.
Corinthian	Concord	L. Willis Bean.
Corner Stone	Duxbury	J. S. Loring.
Dalhousie	Newtonville	H. F. Allen.
Day Spring	Monson	E. F. Morris.
Delta	Weymouth	Charles G. Thompson.
DeWitt Clinton	Sandwich	R. C. Clark.
Doric	Hudson	Charles A. Wood.
Eden	Ware	George Eddy.
Eliot	Jamaica Plain	P. E. Burtchaell.
Eleusis	Boston	George L. Roberts.
Essex	Salem	Thomas Lefavor.
Eureka	New Bedford	H. W. Emerson.
Evening Star	Lee	W. L. Davies. .
Excelsior	Franklin	Joseph P. Day.
Faith	Charlestown	James W. Poor.
Franklin	Grafton	George R. Newton.
Fraternal	Hyannis	O. C. Hoxie.
Fellowship	Bridgewater	W. K. Churchill.
Gate of the Temple	South Boston	Alban S. Green.
Germania	Boston	F. Blocklinger.
Golden Fleece	Lynn	William B. Phillips.
Grecian	Lawrence	Joseph H. Safford.
Hammatt	East Boston	George Butts.
Hampden	Springfield	P. S. Bailey.
Harmony	Northfield	Jona. A. Barber.
Hayden	Brookfield	William F. Hayden.
Henry Price	Charlestown	Elijah S. Wait.
Hiram	Arlington	Geo. H. Lancaster.
Hiram	Caldera, Chili, S.A.	
Hope	Gardner	James H. Greenwood.
Huntington	Huntington	William S. Tinker.
Hyde Park	Hyde Park	Henry C. Adams.
Ionic	Taunton	I. C. Howland.
Ionic	Easthampton	George S. Clark.
Isaac Parker	Waltham	H. W. Howe.
James Otis	Barnstable	O. M. Hinckley.
Jerusalem	Northampton	David E. Hoxie.
J. L. Hutchinson	Arica, Peru, S.A.	
John Abbott	Somerville	Aaron Sargent.
John Cutler	Abington	E. M. Nash.
John Hancock	Methuen	Geo. W. Tenny.
John T. Heard	Ipswich	Charles H. Howe.

John Warren	Hopkinton	Robert M. Rockwood.
Jordan	Peabody	A. B. Woodbury.
Joseph Warren . . .	Boston	Ivory H. Pope.
Kilwinning	Lowell	Charles A. Kendall.
King David	Taunton	Harrie A. Cushman.
King Hiram	Provincetown	Albert Sweetser.
King Philip	Fall River	James Brady, jr.
King Solomon	Charlestown	George H. Marden.
Konohassett	Cohasset	George W. Merritt.
Lafayette	Boston Highlands . .	John D. Williard.
Lafayette	North Adams	Robert King.
Liberty	Beverly	James H. Kendall.
Marine	Falmouth	W. H. Hewins.
Massachusetts	Boston	W. H. Hawkes.
Martha's Vineyard . .	Tisbury	A. W. Smith.
May Flower	Middleboro'	Jacob B. Shaw.
Meridian	Natick	E. W. Cozzens.
Merrimack	Haverhill	Francis J. Stevens.
Middlesex	Framingham	C. J. Frost.
Mizpah	Cambridgeport	Seymour B. Snow.
Monitor	Waltham	Thos. Kirke.
Mountain	Shelburne Falls	J. L. Newell.
Morning Star	Worcester	George J. Morey.
Mount Carmel	Lynn	Henry C. Oliver.
Mount Herman	Medford	P. R. Litchfield.
Mount Hope	Fall River	Augustus B. Leonard.
Mount Horeb	Woburn	Sparrow Horton.
Mount Horeb	West Harwich	Charles H. Kelley.
Mount Hollis	Holliston	John D. Shippee.
Mount Lebanon	Boston	Thomas Waterman.
Mount Moriah	Westfield	Jas. R. Gladwin.
Mount Olivet	Cambridge	Charles L. Fuller.
Mount Tabor	East Boston	W. D. Barrett.
Mount Tom	Holyoke	H. L. Wheeler.
Mount Vernon	Malden	Henry E. Turner, jr.
Mount Zion	Barre	Henry J. Shattuck.
Montacute	Worcester	C. Edward Moran.
Montgomery	Milford	Lewis Fales.
Mystic	Pittsfield	William Kelly.
Norfolk Union	Randolph	Hiram C. Alden.
North Star	Ashland	John C. Rockwood.
Old Colony	Hingham	C. W. S. Seymour.
Olive Branch	Millbury	E. H. Sumner.
Orange	Orange	John C. Felt.
Orient	South Dedham	Warren E. Locke.
Oriental	Edgartown	Tristram R. Holley.

Orphan's Hope	East Weymouth	C. H. Pratt.
Oxford	Oxford	George H. Amidon.
Pacific	Amherst	William H. Olney.
Palestine	Malden	James P. Stewart.
Paul Dean	North Easton	Charles A. Wood.
Paul Revere	North Bridgewater . .	Jonas R. Perkins.
Pentucket	Lowell	Eliphalet Hills.
Pequosette	Watertown	Charles H. Bradlee.
Philanthropic	Marblehead	S. P. Hathaway, jr.
Pilgrim	Harwich	Darius F. Weekes.
Pioneer	Somerset	Samuel P. Marble.
Plymouth	Plymouth	Josiah R. Drew.
Putnam	East Cambridge	Luther L. Parker.
Pythagorean	Marion	S. H. Elder.
Quaboag	Warren	John Wetherbee.
Quinnebaug	Southbridge	Thomas Cocroft.
Republican	Greenfield	J. G. Wilson.
Revere	Boston	William W. Baker.
Rising Star	Stoughton	S. Augustus Bowdler.
Robert Lash	Chelsea	Benj. F. Dodge.
Roswell Lee	Springfield	John A. Hall.
Rural	Quincy	S. Dewing, jr.
Saggaheew	Haverhill	Joseph Le Bosquet.
St. Albans	Foxboro'	E. W. Clarke.
St. Andrew's	Boston	A. A. Wellington.
St. Bernard's	Southboro'.	Franklin Este.
St. James	Mansfield	Ellis Fairbanks.
St. John's	Boston	Solon Thornton.
St. John's	Newburyport	Nath. Greeley.
St. Mark's	Newburyport	Daniel P. Pike.
St. Matthew's	Andover	George H. Parker.
St. Paul's	South Boston	Horace Smith.
St. Paul's	Groton	A. S. Lawrence.
Siloam	Westboro'	Luther M. Goddard.
Social Harmony	Wareham	Myron B. Hoyt.
Solomon's Temple . . .	Uxbridge	Daniel W. Taft.
Star	Athol	Enoch T. Lewis.
Star in the East	New Bedford	James C. Hitch.
Star of Bethlehem . . .	Chelsea	C. A. Blanchard.
Starr King	Salem	William B. Upton.
Thomas	Palmer	A. H. Willis.
Trinity	Clinton	Daniel Marsh.
Tuscan	Lawrence	P. B. Robinson.
Tyrian	Gloucester	Addison Center.
Union	Nantucket	Charles P. Swain.
Union	Dorchester	George A. Jones.

United Brethren . . .	Marlboro'	Joseph W. Barnes.
Warren	Amesbury	S. F. Merrill.
Washington	Roxbury	George F. Davis.
Webster	Webster	Horace S. Briggs.
Wilder	Leominster	Samuel Whittier.
Winslow Lewis	Boston	Geo. L. Andrews.
William North	Lowell	Edwin Lamson.
William Parkman . . .	Winchester	H. W. Hight.
William Sutton	Saugus	Benj. F. Colley.
Wisdom	West Stockbridge . . .	Geo. L. Bradbury.
Wyoming	Melrose	G. C. Stantial.
Zetland	Boston	George R. Rogers.

PAST OFFICERS AND PERMANENT MEMBERS.

Grand Masters

OF "THE ST. JOHN'S GRAND LODGE" FROM 1733 TO THE
UNION IN 1792.

HENRY PRICE.

ROBERT TOMLINSON.

THOMAS OXNARD.

JEREMY GRIDLEY.

JOHN ROWE.

JOHN CUTLER.

Grand Masters

OF "THE MASSACHUSETTS GRAND LODGE" FROM 1769 TO
THE UNION IN 1792.

JOSEPH WARREN.

JOSEPH WEBB.

JOHN WARREN.

MOSES M. HAYES.

PERMANENT MEMBERS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS

SINCE THE UNION OF "THE ST. JOHN'S GRAND LODGE" AND "THE MASSACHUSETTS GRAND LODGE," MARCH 5, 1792.

Past Grand Masters.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| *John Cutler, 1792, 93. | *Elijah Crane, 1832. |
| *Paul Revere, 1794-96. | *Joshua B. Flint, 1834-36 |
| *Josiah Bartlett, 1797, 98. | *Rev. Paul Dean, 1837-39. |
| *Samuel Dunn, 1799-1801. | *Caleb Butler, 1840, 41. |
| *Isaiah Thomas, 1802-1804, 1808. | *Augustus Peabody, 1842-44. |
| *Timothy Bigelow, 1805-7, 1810-12. | *Simon W. Robinson, 1845-47. |
| *Benjamin Russell, 1813-15. | *Edward A. Raymond, 1848-50. |
| *Francis J. Oliver, 1816-18. | Rt. Rev. Geo. M. Randall, 1851-53. |
| *Samuel P. P. Fay, 1819. | Winslow Lewis, 1854, 55, 1859. |
| *John Dixwell, 1820-22. | John T. Heard, 1856-58. |
| *John Abbott, 1823-25, 1833. | Wm. D. Coolidge, 1860, 61. |
| *John Soley, 1826-28. | William Parkman, 1862-64. |
| *Joseph Jenkins, 1829-31. | Charles C. Dame, 1865-67. |

Past Deputy Grand Masters.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| *John Lowell, 1792. | *John Boyle, 1808, 1809. |
| *Josiah Bartlett, 1793 | *Samuel Bradford, 1810. |
| *William Scollay, 1794, 95. | *Rev. Thad. M. Harris, 1811. |
| *Samuel Dunn, 1796-98. | *Francis J. Oliver, 1812-15. |
| *Joseph Laughton, 1799-1801. | *John Dixwell, 1816, 17. |
| *Simon Elliot, 1802-1808. | *Samuel P. P. Fay, 1818. |

*Rev. Asa Eaton, 1819.
 *John Abbott, 1820-22.
 *Caleb Butler, 1823-25.
 *John Bartlett, 1826-28.
 *Elijah Morse, 1829.
 *William Hilliard, 1830.
 *David Wilder, 1831.
 Abraham A. Dame, 1832, 33.
 *Rev. Paul Dean, 1834-36.
 George G. Smith, 1837-39.
 *Simon W. Robinson, 1840-42.
 *John B. Hammatt, 1843.
 Rev. E. M. P. Wells, 1844.
 Winslow Lewis, 1845-47.

Rt. Rev. Geo. M. Randall, 1848-50.
 Rev. Lucius R. Paige, 1851-53.
 Abraham T. Lowe, 1854, 55.
 *Rev. William Flint, 1856-58.
 Charles R. Train, 1858.
 J. V. C. Smith, 1859.
 G. W. Warren, 1860.
 Marshall P. Wilder, 1861.
 Charles C. Dame, 1862-64.
 Sereno D. Nickerson, 1865.
 Newall A. Thompson, 1866.
 Charles W. Moore, 1867.
 Charles Levi Woodbury, 1868.

Past Senior Grand Wardens.

*Josiah Bartlett, 1792.
 *Mungo Mackay, 1793.
 *Isaiah Thomas, 1794-96.
 *Joseph Laughton, 1797, 98.
 *John Boyle, 1799-1801.
 *Isaac Hurd, 1802.
 *Timothy Bigelow, 1803, 1804.
 *John Soley, 1805, 1806.
 *Shubael Bell, 1807.
 *Henry Fowle, 1808.
 *Francis J. Oliver, 1809-11.
 *Benjamin Russell, 1812.
 *John Abbott, 1813.
 *John B. Hammatt, 1814, 15.
 *Augustus Peabody, 1816.
 *Caleb Butler, 1817, 18.
 *Andrew Sigourney, 1819.
 *Thomas Cole, 1820, 21.
 *Elijah Crane, 1822.
 *Samuel Thaxter, 1823-25.
 *John Keyes, 1826, 27.
 *Seth Sprague, Jr., 1828.
 Abraham A. Dame, 1829-31.
 *William J. Whipple, 1832.
 *Elias Haskell, 1833-35.
 *Benjamin B. Appleton, 1836.

*Simon W. Robinson, 1837-39.
 *Thomas Tolman, 1840-42.
 *Robert Lash, 1843.
 *Robert Keith, 1844.
 *Edward A. Raymond, 1845-47.
 *John J. Loring, 1848.
 *Thomas M. Vinson, 1849, 50.
 *William Ferson, 1851.
 Daniel Harwood, 1852.
 Richard S. Spofford, 1853.
 William C. Plunkett, 1854.
 John T. Heard, 1855.
 Bradford L. Wales, 1856.
 Henry Goddard, 1857.
 Lorenzo H. Gamwell, 1858.
 Joel Spalding, 1859.
 William North, 1860.
 Henry Chickering, 1861.
 William W. Baker, 1862.
 William S. Gardner, 1863.
 Wendell T. Davis, 1864.
 William Sutton, 1865.
 Samuel P. Oliver, 1866.
 William F. Salmon, 1867.
 Ithamar F. Conkey, 1868.

Past Junior Grand Wardens.

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| *Mungo Mackay, 1792. | *James A. Dickson, 1832. |
| *Samuel Parkman, 1793. | *Benjamin B. Appleton, 1833-35. |
| *Richard Salter, 1794. | *Simeon W. Robinson, 1836. |
| *Joseph Laughton, 1795, 96. | *C. Gayton Pickman, 1837-39. |
| *William Little, 1797. | Winslow Lewis, 1840-42. |
| *John Boyle, 1798. | *Thomas Power, 1843. |
| *Rev. Thad. M. Harris, 1799. | John Hews, 1844. |
| *Isaac Hurd, 1800, 1801. | *John R. Bradford, 1845-47. |
| *Timothy Bigelow, 1802. | *Thomas M. Vinson, 1848. |
| *John Soley, 1803, 1804. | *Asa T. Newhall, 1449, 50. |
| *Shubael Bell, 1805, 1806. | John Flint, 1851. |
| *Henry Fowle, 1807. | *Rev. Benjamin Huntoon, 1852. |
| *Francis J. Oliver, 1808. | Jonas A. Marshall, 1853. |
| *Oliver Prescott, 1809. | Samuel K. Hutchinson, 1854. |
| *Benjamin Russell, 1810, 11. | Charles R. Train, 1855. |
| *John Abbott, 1812. | John H. Sheppard, 1856. |
| *John B. Hammatt, 1813. | Isaac Hull Wright, 1857. |
| *Joseph Baker, 1814, 15. | Charles Robbins, 1858. |
| *Ralph H. French, 1816. | William D. Coolidge, 1859. |
| *James C. King, 1817. | *Jesse P. Pattee, 1860. |
| *Joseph Jenkins, 1818. | Peter C. Jones, 1861. |
| *Thomas Cole, 1819. | Daniel Reynolds, 1862. |
| *Elijah Crane, 1820, 21. | Benjamin Dean, 1863. |
| *Samuel Thaxter, 1822. | Solon Thornton, 1864. |
| *John Keyes, 1823-25. | Wyzeman Marshall, 1865. |
| *John Mills, 1826. | Henry Mulliken, 1866. |
| *Henry Purkitt, 1827. | George H. Taber, 1867. |
| *Abraham A. Dame, 1828. | Ivory H. Pope, 1868. |
| *William J. Whipple, 1829-31. | |

Recording Grand Secretaries

SINCE THE UNION IN 1792 (not permanent members *ex-officio*).

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| *Thomas Farrington, 1792. | *John Soley, 1811-18. |
| *Samuel Colesworthy, 1793. | *Thomas Power, 1819-32. |
| *Daniel Oliver, 1794-1801. | Charles W. Moore, 1833-66. |
| *John Proctor, 1802-10. | Solon Thornton, 1867.- |

2

CONSTITUTIONS

OF THE

Freemasons Lodge
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS,—

AND

GENERAL REGULATIONS

FOR

The Government of the Craft under its Jurisdiction.

BOSTON:
METROPOLITAN PRINTING COMPANY,
21 SCHOOL STREET.
1870.

1870, Apr. 1.
Gift of
J. M. L. Gardner,
of Boston.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINE.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE MASTER, WARDENS, AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

SECT. 1. — JOHN T. HEARD, Grand Master, and his associates, the Grand Wardens and Members of the Voluntary Association known as the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Massachusetts, and their successors, are hereby incorporated, and made a body politic, by the name of "THE MASTER, WARDENS, AND MEMBERS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MASONS IN MASSACHUSETTS," for the purpose of managing and administering the Charity funds belonging to said voluntary association, with power to have a common seal, to sue and be sued, to make and ordain, from time to time, By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations, for the government and management of the Corporation, provided the same be not repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth; and that they have all the privileges, and be subject to all the liabilities set forth in the forty-fourth Chapter of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable to Corporations for charitable purposes.

SECT. 2. — The said Corporation may take by purchase, gift, grant, or otherwise, and hold Real Estate not exceeding the value of *Two Hundred Thousand Dollars* [since increased to *Five Hundred Thousand Dollars*], and personal estate not exceeding the value of *Fifty Thousand Dollars*.

SECT. 3. — John T. Heard is hereby authorized to call the first meeting of said Corporation, by advertisement in two newspapers printed in Boston one week previous thereto, and appoint the time and place thereof, at which meeting the mode of calling future meetings shall be regulated.

SECT. 4. — This Act shall take effect on and after its passage.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 1, 1859.

Passed to be enacted

CHARLES HALE, *Speaker*.

IN SENATE, March 1, 1859.

Passed to be enacted.

CHARLES A. PHELPS, *President*.

MARCH 1, 1859.

Approved.

N. P. BANKS.

SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT, Boston, March 2, 1859.

A true copy.

Attest,

OLIVER WARNER,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

CONSTITUTIONS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

P R E A M B L E.

WHEREAS, the voluntary association known by the title of "THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT, FREE, AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS," having obtained and accepted an Act of Incorporation from the General Court of Massachusetts, dated March 1, 1859, with power "to make and ordain, from time to time, By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations for the government and management of the Corporation, provided the same be not repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of this Commonwealth":

Now, therefore, the said Grand Lodge doth hereby make, ordain, and promulgate the following as the By-Laws, Rules, and Regulations of the Master, Wardens, and Members of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.

Part First.

ARTICLE I.

SEAL.—BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



SECT. 1. — That the Seal heretofore used by the Grand Lodge, when acting as a voluntary association, shall be the Seal of the Corporation, to be kept and used by the Recording Grand Secretary.

SECT. 2. — The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Grand Master and eight other members, of whom four, at least, shall be permanent members of the Grand Lodge, and four may be chosen from the members of subordinate Lodges in the Commonwealth, who shall, while they are Directors, be members of the Grand Lodge. At the Annual Election in December, 1869, four Directors, two of each class, shall be chosen for one year, and four, two of each class, for two years. At each Annual Meeting thereafter, four Directors, two of each class, shall be chosen for two years. Vacancies may be filled at any Stated Meeting of the Grand Lodge, for an unexpired term, the Director so chosen to be of the class vacated. The Board of Directors may appoint its own Clerk, who shall be Clerk of

the Corporation, who shall remain in office until his successor is elected and qualified. The Grand Master shall be President of the Board, and, in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master shall act and preside in his place. New members of the Board shall enter upon their duties after the annual installation of the Grand Master. Meetings of said Board to be called and notified in such manner and at such times as they shall determine; and the action of a majority of the Board to be binding; said Board, however, to be at all times subject to the direction of the Corporation.

ARTICLE II.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.—RANK AND TITLES.

SECT. 1.—The Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge, and their rank and titles, shall be as follows:—

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. M.W. Grand Master. | 12. W. and Rev. Grand Chaplains. |
| 2. R.W. Deputy Grand Master. | 13. W. Grand Marshal. |
| 3. „ Senior Grand Warden. | 14. „ Grand Senior Deacon. |
| 4. „ Junior Grand Warden | 15. „ Grand Junior Deacon. |
| 5. „ Past Grand Masters. | 16. „ Grand Stewards. |
| 6. „ Past Deputy Gr. Masters. | 17. „ Grand Sword-Bearer. |
| 7. „ Past Grand Wardens. | 18. „ Grand Standard-Bearer. |
| 8. „ Grand Treasurer. | 19. „ Grand Pursuivants. |
| 9. „ Recording Gr. Secretary. | 20. „ Grand Lecturers. |
| 10. „ Corresponding Gr. Sec'y. | 21. Br. Grand Organist. |
| 11. „ Dist. Deputy Gr. Masters. | 22. Br. Grand Tyler. |

All of whom, together with the Worshipful Masters, the Senior and Junior Wardens, and proxies of Lodges, under this jurisdiction, shall be entitled to vote as members of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Organist and Grand Tyler excepted.

ARTICLE III.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING.

SECT. 1. — The Regular Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge shall be held in the city of Boston on the second Wednesday in December, March, June, and September, at 2 o'clock, P.M. There shall also be a Communication held annually on the 27th of December, commencing at 6 o'clock in the evening, for the Installation of the Grand Officers and the celebration of the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist.

SECT. 2. — The meetings of the Grand Lodge, whether regular or special, shall be notified by publication in one or more newspapers printed in the city of Boston; such publication to be at least one week prior to the time appointed for holding such meetings. Special meetings may be called at pleasure by the presiding officer of the Corporation, or by vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV.

POWERS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

SECT. 1. — By the ancient Constitutions and usages of Freemasonry, the Grand Lodge, as the supreme masonic authority in this Commonwealth, is invested with certain original, essential, and unalterable powers and privileges. Among these is the power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Craft, and of altering, repealing, and abrogating them; of establishing and preserving a

uniform system of Work and Lectures ; of issuing Dispensations and Charters for new Lodges, and of suspending or revoking the same for unmasonic conduct, the non-observance of the Regulations of this Grand Lodge, the non-payment of dues, or other neglect of duty.

SECT. 2. — The Grand Lodge has also the inherent power of investigating, regulating, and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular Lodges, or to individual brothers ; which power it may exercise either by itself or by such delegated authority as, in its wisdom and discretion, it may appoint ; but in the Grand Lodge alone resides the power of revoking the Charter of Lodges and expelling brethren from the Craft.

ARTICLE V.

QUALIFICATIONS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — No brother shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, Recording Grand Secretary, Corresponding Grand Secretary, or District Deputy Grand Master, unless he be a Past Master of a subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of some Grand Lodge, or has heretofore held one of the aforesaid offices in this Grand Lodge ; and neither of the officers here specially enumerated shall, during his continuance in office, be Master or Warden of a subordinate Lodge.

SECT. 2. — No brother shall be eligible to an office in Grand Lodge except he be a permanent member thereof, or a member of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

ARTICLE VI.

ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — The Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Recording Grand Secretary shall be elected by ballot, on the second Wednesday in December, annually; the election to commence at 3 o'clock, P.M. Two-thirds of the votes collected shall be necessary to a choice for Grand Master and Grand Wardens; a majority for the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

SECT. 2. — In case of the death, resignation, or declination of any of the above Grand Officers, the Grand Lodge may proceed to elect and install a successor at any regular communication after such event.

SECT. 3. — The Grand Master shall not be eligible for more than three years successively, except by unanimous vote of Grand Lodge, taken by ballot, at the annual meeting, on the question of re-nomination. If the ballot be clear in the affirmative, he may again be put in nomination for re-election.

SECT. 4. — The Grand Wardens shall be subject to the same regulation as in the case of Grand Master, except that the Junior Grand Warden may be advanced to the rank of Senior Grand Warden.

SECT. 5. — All Grand Officers not herein designated for election shall be appointed by the Grand Master.

SECT. 6. — In all elections by ballot, every member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to one vote, and one only, unless he be a representative of a subordinate Lodge. A member cannot delegate his right of voting to another.

SECT. 7. — No officer or permanent member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to more than one vote, unless he be also a Master or Warden of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction. A permanent member, resuming office in Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to one vote only.

ARTICLE VII.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — The officers of the Grand Lodge, elected and appointed, shall be annually installed on the ensuing anniversary of St. John the Evangelist. When that festival shall happen on a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, the installation shall take place on the following Tuesday. The Grand Master shall be installed by his immediate predecessor; or, in his absence, by the Senior Past Grand Master present; and in the absence of such Past Grand Master, by the Senior Past Master present.

SECT. 2. — In case the Grand Master elect cannot attend at the time appointed for his installation, he may be installed by proxy, on signifying his acceptance of the office. But such proxy must be a Past Grand Master, or the Senior Past Master present.

SECT. 3. — The Grand Master, if present, shall install the elective officers and his Deputy. If absent, his proxy shall install the Deputy Grand Master, who shall install the remaining officers. The appointed officers may be installed by the Deputy Grand Master. In case of the absence of the Deputy Grand Master, either of the Grand Wardens, the Grand Treasurer, or Recording Grand Secretary, they may

be installed by proxies, who shall be past officers of corresponding rank, or Past Masters of subordinate Lodges and members of the Grand Lodge. The proxies for all other officers, except Grand Chaplain and Tyler, must also be members of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 4. — The several Grand Officers, previous to their installation, shall make the following declaration : —

“I solemnly promise, upon the honor of a Mason, that, in the office of ———, I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the Constitutions and Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all other ancient masonic usages, so far as the same shall come to my knowledge.”

SECT. 5. — All Grand Officers, elected or appointed, when installed, shall be proclaimed by the Grand Marshal, and shall retain their stations until their successors are duly elected and installed.

SECT. 6. — No elected officer of the Grand Lodge, or of any subordinate Lodge, shall act as such until he is duly installed.

ARTICLE VIII.

POWER AND DUTY OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SECT. 1. — The Grand Master enjoys all the powers and prerogatives conferred by the ancient Constitutions and the usages and landmarks of the Craft. He may convene any Lodge within his jurisdiction, preside therein (with his officers or otherwise), inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity with the regulations of the Grand Lodge; and for dereliction of duty, or other unmasonic conduct, he

may suspend a brother, or a Lodge, until the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge, when he shall present the reasons for such suspension in writing. He may also grant dispensations for processions and conferring the degrees, and do all such other acts and deeds as are warranted or required of him by the regulations and the ancient usages of the Fraternity.

SECT. 2. — The Deputy Grand Master shall, in the absence of the Grand Master, preside in Grand Lodge, and perform such duties, and possess such authority, while the Grand Lodge is in session, as appertain to the Grand Master; and in case of the inability of the Grand Master, from sickness or other cause, to attend, he may, with the consent and approbation of the elective Grand Officers, call special meetings of the Grand Lodge, should the interest of the Craft, in their opinion, at any time require it. He may also, by permission of the Grand Master, in writing, call meetings of the Grand Officers, and such experienced brethren as they may think proper to invite, for consultation on matters relative to the Grand Lodge and its interests. All such meetings, however, not having the approbation of the Grand Master, shall be deemed irregular.

SECT. 3. — In case of the death or resignation of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master shall be, *ex officio*, Grand Master until a successor be chosen.

SECT. 4. — The Grand Wardens are to assist the Grand Master, in the Grand Lodge, and, whenever required, are to attend him; and, while he presides in any particular subordinate Lodge, are to act there as his Wardens.

SECT. 5. — In the absence of the Junior Grand Warden,

the senior Past Grand Warden present shall wear his jewel. In the absence of all Past Grand Wardens, the senior Past Master present shall act *pro tempore*.

SECT. 6. — In the absence of the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden shall preside; and, in his absence, the Junior Grand Warden. In the absence of each of them, the Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens, according to seniority; and if no officer of either grade be present, the senior Past Master is to preside, unless he waive his right in favor of another brother, who is a Past Master. In either of these cases, the presiding officer (unless he be a Past Grand Master) shall wear the jewel of the Deputy Grand Master.

SECT. 7. — The Grand Treasurer shall have the charge of the personal property and funds of the Grand Lodge; shall give bonds for the faithful discharge of his trust, in such sum and with such sureties as the Grand Lodge shall require; and shall from time to time invest all unappropriated funds in his hands in such manner as the Board of Directors shall direct. He shall receive all moneys from the District Deputy Grand Masters, as well as all other moneys paid to the Grand Lodge; shall pay all bills passed by the Board of Directors; and shall have in his care all the regalia not entrusted to the Senior Grand Steward, and all charters, records, seals, and regalia returned to the Grand Lodge. He shall keep an accurate account of all money by him received and paid; and shall annually render an account thereof, with a schedule of the funds of the Grand Lodge, to the Board of Directors; shall deliver to his successor in office the funds and all other

property of the Grand Lodge entrusted to his care, taking duplicate receipts for the same, one of which receipts he shall deposit with the Recording Secretary.

SECT. 8. — The Recording Grand Secretary shall give seasonable notice, in a public paper, of each regular communication of the Grand Lodge; and shall notify, by letter, all officers and permanent members of the Grand Lodge, together with the Master and Wardens of the subordinate Lodges through their respective Secretaries. Special meetings may be notified in the manner above provided. He shall make a correct record of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge; receive petitions, applications, and appeals, and lay them before the Grand Master; shall fill, attest, and affix the Grand Seal to all Warrants, Charters, Commissions, and Certificates, by order of the Grand Master; and shall keep a list of all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, according to seniority. He shall present the chairman of every committee with a copy of the vote of his appointment, and shall attend all committees, with such documents as are in his possession, when required; and record all reports of committees which may be accepted by the Grand Lodge. He shall annually, in the month of January, forward to each member of the Grand Lodge one, and to each District Deputy Grand Master such number of copies of the edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, which have been passed the preceding year, as shall be directed by the Grand Master, and all such other transactions of the Grand Lodge as may be necessary for the information and regulation of the subordinate Lodges, in which shall be included a correct list of the officers of the Grand Lodge, and District Deputy

Grand Masters, for the current year. He shall make a transcript of the records in the month of September annually, immediately after the Communication of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 9. — The Corresponding Grand Secretary shall, if required by the Grand Master, answer, under his direction, any foreign communication made to the Grand Lodge; and when present, if desired by the Grand Master, read all communications to the Grand Lodge. It shall also be his duty, from time to time, to lay before the Grand Lodge such matters of masonic interest as may come to his knowledge.

SECT. 10. — The District Deputy Grand Masters shall visit the Lodges in their respective Districts, and inspect their By-Laws, Records, and mode of Work, once a year at least, and before the last week in November; but, if they deem it for the interest of Masonry, they may delegate their duties in distant Lodges to some suitable brother. They shall have power to grant Dispensations for initiation, and in cases of emergency, for public processions; shall communicate to the Lodges all edicts and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and furnish them with all such diplomas as they shall be entitled to; shall receive and receipt for all dues to the Grand Lodge; receive the returns of the Lodges and make their remarks thereon. They shall annually transmit their returns, and all moneys in their hands, to the Grand Treasurer, on or before the first day of December; and if they shall fail to comply with this regulation, unless prevented by sickness, or by some other cause beyond their control, they shall not be eligible to re-appointment. They shall be reimbursed their *necessary* expenses in visiting the Lodges; but shall present their accounts to the Board of

Directors for allowance; and each District Deputy Grand Master, on receiving from the Grand Treasurer the jewel of his office and the records of the District over which he is appointed, shall give to the Grand Treasurer a receipt in the following form, viz. : —

“Whereas, I, ———, have been appointed and duly commissioned District Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts, for the ——— Masonic District, and have received the collar and jewel appertaining to said office, and the book of records of said District, I hereby promise to return the same, at the expiration or revocation of my Commission, to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; and, in default thereof, I promise to pay on demand, to the order of said Treasurer, or whoever may hold the office of Treasurer of said Grand Lodge, the sum of fifty dollars.”

SECT. 11. — There shall be two Grand Chaplains appointed by the Grand Master on the day of his installation, who shall attend the Quarterly Communications and other meetings of the Grand Lodge, and perform such clerical duties as are suitable to the occasion and as are established by the usages of the Fraternity.

SECT. 12. — The Grand Marshal shall direct the organization of the Grand Lodge before it is opened; collect from the members and petitioners in the Grand Lodge all communications, and place them before the Grand Secretary; he shall introduce visitors, direct the formation of processions, call the Lodges at every Communication, and communicate and execute all commands of the Grand Master not otherwise provided for.

SECT. 13. — The Grand Deacons are to communicate

messages, and attend the Grand Master in all processions; and in the absence of either of them, the Grand Master shall appoint a member to act *pro tempore*.

SECT. 14. — There shall be four Grand Stewards annually appointed. The Senior Grand Steward shall have in his charge all the jewels, clothing, and furniture of the Grand Lodge; and at the Annual Communication, and previous to the choice of officers, he shall render an accurate inventory of everything committed to his care, shall deliver the same to his successor in office, taking duplicate receipts therefor, one of which receipts he shall deposit with the Grand Treasurer. He shall, with the assistance of his brother Stewards, properly distribute the jewels and clothing, and collect the same at the closing of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 15. — The Grand Sword-Bearer shall take rank as assistant Grand Marshal, and, in the absence of his principal, shall act as his substitute.

SECT. 16. — There shall be two Grand Pursuivants annually appointed. Their station shall be at the inner door of the Grand Lodge; and it shall be their duty to attend to the admission of the officers, members, and visitors; to see that they appear in Grand Lodge suitably clothed, and, under the direction of the Grand Marshal, that they take their proper stations. They shall also assist the Grand Marshal, and precede in all public processions of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 17. — There shall be three Grand Lecturers, being Past Masters, annually appointed, whose duty it shall be to exemplify the Work and Lectures of the several degrees, before the Grand Lodge, on the Thursday following the Annual Communication in December, in each year, for the benefit of

the brethren generally. They shall also impart instruction to any Lodge requiring their services, — the Lodge paying them a reasonable compensation therefor. It shall also be their duty to visit and instruct any Lodge, under this jurisdiction, at the expense of the Grand Lodge, whenever it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the Grand Master that said Lodge is unable to bear the expense; and they shall report to the Grand Master, in writing, whenever and as often as they shall discover any deviations, either in the Work or Lectures, from the system adopted by the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 18. — The M.W. Grand Master shall annually appoint a Library Committee, who shall have sole charge of the Library.

SECT. 19. — The Grand Tyler is to guard the outer door, and see that none enter previously to the opening of the Grand Lodge, except the officers and members, unless by special permission of the Grand Master.

Part Second.

GRAND CHARITY FUND.

ARTICLE I.

SECT. 1. — The Charity Fund established by this Grand Lodge shall be styled "the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts," and shall consist of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

SECT. 2. — The Charity Fund shall be held in the name of the Grand Lodge, and shall be under the direction of a Board of Trustees; and said Board shall be styled "the Trustees of the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts."

SECT. 3. — The interest arising annually from this Fund shall be appropriated, as the Grand Lodge shall direct, for the relief of such poor and distressed brethren, their widows and orphans, as may be deemed worthy of assistance; but all interest unappropriated at the end of each year shall be paid over by the Trustees to the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge. *Provided, nevertheless,* That if this Fund shall at any time be reduced below the sum prescribed in Sec. 1, all such unappropriated interest shall be added yearly to the principal, until it shall again amount to Fifty Thousand Dollars.

Part Third.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

ARTICLE I.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

SECT. 1. — At each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, an Auditing Committee, consisting of three members of the Grand Lodge, shall be chosen by ballot, whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts of the Treasurer and report to the Grand Lodge at the ensuing Annual Communication, and before the election of officers, an account of the receipts and expenditures of the preceding year, with a statement of all funds in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

ARTICLE II.

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS FOR NEW LODGES.

SECT. 1. — Dispensations for holding new Lodges may be issued by the Grand Master, or the Grand Lodge, on the petition of not less than seven Master Masons of known skill and good standing; provided the petition be countersigned by the District Deputy Grand Master within whose District the petitioners reside, and recommended by the Lodge situ-

ated nearest to the place where the new Lodge is proposed to be located.

SECT. 2. — The fee for such Dispensations shall be ten dollars, to be paid to the Grand Treasurer, and five dollars to the Secretary ; and every Dispensation shall be returned to the Grand Lodge at the expiration of one year from the date thereof, together with an attested transcript of all the proceedings and of the By-Laws of the Lodge working under the same. If these be approved by the Grand Lodge, a Charter of Constitution may be issued to the petitioners, for which they shall pay to the Grand Treasurer the further sum of fifty dollars, forty-five of which shall be for the funds of the Grand Lodge and five for the Recording Grand Secretary.

SECT. 3. — The form of petition for a Dispensation shall be as follows : —

“To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“ We, the undersigned, being Master Masons in good standing, and having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, are anxious to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Freemasonry ; and, for the convenience of our respective dwellings and other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, to be named ———. We, therefore, with the approbation of the District Deputy Grand Master and the Lodge nearest our residence, respectfully pray for a Dispensation empowering us to meet as a regular Lodge at ———, on the ——— of every month, and there to discharge the duties of Ancient York Masonry, in a constitutional manner, according to the forms of the Order and the laws of the Grand Lodge ; and we have nominated and do recommend Brother *A B* to be the

first Master, Brother *C D* to be the First Senior Warden, and Brother *E F* to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.

The prayer of this petition being granted, we promise strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master and the laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge."

SECT. 4. — Every new Lodge shall be solemnly constituted by the Grand Master and his officers, or by some competent brother especially commissioned by him for the purpose.*

ARTICLE III.

SURRENDER, FORFEITURE, AND REVOCATION OF CHARTERS.

SECT. 1. — Every Charter surrendered to the Grand Lodge, whether or not with the intention of being resumed at a future period, shall be accompanied with the By-Laws, Records, Seal, Regalia, Funds, and other property of the Lodge of every description ; and all the property of a Lodge surrendering its Charter, with the intention of resuming it, shall be held by the Grand Lodge, in trust, until such time as the Charter shall be restored, or the intention of reclaiming it abandoned. The interest arising from said funds and other property shall be made a part of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and, in case of forfeiture, the principal shall be devoted to the same object. No Charter thus deposited shall be restored, unless the provisions of this section shall

* The officers of a Lodge working under Dispensation are not entitled to seats as representatives in Grand Lodge. "No new Lodge is owned, nor their officers admitted into the Grand Lodge, unless it be regularly constituted and registered."—*Vide Ancient Mas. Reg., Art. XII.*

have been strictly complied with, nor unless seven of the petitioners for its restoration were members of the Lodge at the time of its surrender; and it shall be the duty of the petitioners to notify the District Deputy Grand Master of the District, and the Lodge nearest to their residence, of their intention to petition for the restoration.

SECT. 2. — Every Charter, when declared forfeited, shall be returned to the Grand Lodge, with the Records, By-Laws, Seal, Regalia, Funds, and other property of the Lodge, of every description; and all members of a Lodge who shall refuse to make such surrender, or who shall vote to divide the funds thereof among themselves, or to appropriate them in any other way than is herein designated, shall be liable to expulsion from all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry.

SECT. 3. — If at any time it shall be found necessary to suspend or cancel the Warrant or Charter of any Lodge, under this jurisdiction, for irregular or unmasonic conduct, the members of said Lodge, at the time of its having incurred such penalty, shall be disqualified to visit or join any other Lodge, without special permission of the Grand Lodge obtained on memorial.

SECT. 4. — Any Mason knowingly assisting at the Work of a Lodge whose Warrant or Charter has been suspended or cancelled, shall be liable to expulsion from the rights of Masonry.

ARTICLE IV.

SUSPENSIONS AND EXPULSIONS.

SECT. 1. — Whenever a member of a Lodge or a brother under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of any offence, which, if proved, would subject him to suspension or expulsion, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted agreeably to the following Rules : —

I. The accusations shall be made in writing, under the signature of a Master Mason, and given in charge to the Secretary of the Lodge, who, under the direction of the Master, shall serve, or cause the accused to be served, with an attested copy of the charges fourteen days at least previously to the time appointed for their examination: *Provided*, the residence of the accused shall be known, and shall be within the distance of fifty miles of the place where the Lodge having the matter in hand is located. If the residence of the accused be at a greater distance than fifty miles, but within the State, then, and in that case, a summons to appear and show cause, forwarded to him by mail, or other conveyance, twenty days at least before the time of trial, shall be considered sufficient service. If his residence be out of the State, and unknown, the Lodge may proceed to examine the charges, *ex parte*; but, if known, a summons shall be sent him by mail, or otherwise, sixty days, at least, before the time appointed for the examination.

II. The examination of the charges shall be had in a Lodge specially notified and convened for the purpose, at which no visitors shall be admitted, except as counsel or witnesses.

III. The accused may select any brother for his counsel: and the witnesses shall testify, if Masons, on their honor as such. Hearsay evidence shall be excluded.

IV. The question, "Is the accused guilty or not guilty?"

shall be distinctly put to each member of the Lodge, by name, commencing with the youngest. The answer shall be given standing, and in a distinct and audible manner. The Secretary shall record the answer as given.

V. If the verdict be suspension or expulsion, an attested copy of the proceedings shall be sent up, at the ensuing meeting of this Grand Lodge, for examination and final action.

VI. A sentence of expulsion shall not take effect until confirmed by this Grand Lodge ; but shall operate as a suspension of the delinquent in the meantime.

SECT. 2. — It shall not be competent for a Lodge to try its Master. Any five members of the Lodge, or the District Deputy Grand Master, may, however, impeach him before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges ; and if, in his opinion, they are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceeding, he may suspend the delinquent and summon him to appear at the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be dealt with according to the regulations and usages in such cases established.

SECT. 3. — An expulsion or suspension of a brother from a Royal Arch Chapter, or an Encampment of Knights Templars, shall not operate as an expulsion or suspension from the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECT. 4. — No Lodge under this jurisdiction shall suspend or expel a member from the rights of Masonry for the non-payment of dues. The highest penalty for such delinquency shall be forfeiture or suspension of membership.

ARTICLE V.

APPEAL AND RESTORATION.

SECT. 1. — As the Grand Lodge, when congregated, is a representation of every individual member of the Fraternity, it necessarily possesses a supreme superintending authority, and the power of finally deciding on every case which concerns the interest of the Craft. Any brother, therefore, who may feel aggrieved by the decision of any Lodge, or other masonic authority, acting under this jurisdiction, may appeal to the Grand Lodge against such decision. The appeal must be made in writing, specifying the particular grievance complained of, and transmitted to the Recording Grand Secretary ten days at least before the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge. A notice and copy of the appeal shall also, and at the same time, be sent by the appellant to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

SECT. 2. — Whenever this Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a subordinate Lodge, suspending or expelling a brother, and shall restore him to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMITTEES — THEIR APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

SECT. 1. — All committees, whose election is not herein provided for, shall be appointed by the Grand Master, or, in

his absence, by the presiding officer, unless otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 2. — No brother, not a member of the Grand Lodge, shall be appointed on any committee therein. This, however, is not intended to militate against the right of the Grand Master to commission any brother, in writing, for a specific purpose.

SECT. 3. — All committees, chosen or appointed, shall report their proceedings, in writing, at the next Communication after their appointment. The first brother chosen or appointed shall be chairman, and shall furnish each of the committee with a copy of the vote of his appointment, as received from the Grand Secretary, and designate the time and place of meeting.

SECT. 4. — The expenses of all committees shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VII.

REGALIA—DRESS IN GRAND LODGE.

SECT 1. — The Jewels of the Grand Officers shall be as follows : —

I. The Jewel of the Grand Master shall be the Compasses extended to 45°, with the segment of a circle at the points, and a gold plate included, on which is represented an eye, eradiated within a triangle, also eradiated.

The Jewel of the Deputy Grand Master shall be the Compasses and Square united, with a five-pointed star in the centre.

The Jewels of the District Deputy Grand Masters shall be the compasses extended to 45°, with the segment of a circle at the points, with a crescent in the centre.

Senior Grand Warden, the Level.
Junior Grand Warden, the Plumb.
Grand Treasurer, a chased Key.
Recording Grand Secretary, cross Pens with a tie.
Corresponding Grand Secretary, cross Pens with a tie.
Grand Chaplain, a Book within a triangle.
Grand Marshal, cross Rods.
Grand Deacons, Dove and Olive Branch.
Grand Stewards, Cornucopia.
Grand Sword-Bearer, cross Swords.
Grand Standard-Bearer, Banner.
Grand Pursuivants, a Rod and Sword crossed.
Grand Lecturer, open Book upon Square and Compasses.
Grand Organist, Lyre.
Grand Tyler, Sword.

The Jewel of a Past Grand Master shall be the Compasses extended to 45° , with the segment of a circle at the points, with a blazing Sun in the centre.

The Jewel of a Past Deputy Grand Master shall be the Compasses extended to 45° , with the segment of a circle at the points, with a crescent in the centre.

The Jewels of all the Grand Officers, with the exception of the District Deputy Grand Masters, shall be within a wreath composed of a sprig of Acacia and an ear of Wheat.

II. The Collars of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, shall be chains of gold, or metal gilt.

The Collars of the other officers of the Grand Lodge shall be purple, four inches broad, with narrow edging of gold lace, and ornamented in the centre with a pomegranate embroidered in gold.

III. The Apron of the Grand Master shall be of white lamb-skin, lined with purple, ornamented with the blazing Sun, embroidered in gold in the centre; on the edging the pomegranate

and lotus, with the seven-eared wheat at each corner, and also on the fall, — all in gold embroidery, the fringe of gold bullion, with purple edging and strings.

The Apron of the Deputy Grand Master shall be of the same material and lining, having the emblem of his office in gold embroidery in the centre, and the pomegranate and lotus alternately embroidered in gold on the edging.

The Aprons of the other Grand Officers shall be of white lambskin, lined with purple; edging three and a half inches wide, with purple strings; ornamented with gold, having the emblems of their office, in gold, in the centre.

IV. The Grand Officers shall wear gauntlets of purple, with the emblem of their office, embroidered in gold, within a wreath.

SECT. 2. — The Apron of a Master Mason should be a plain white lambskin, fourteen inches wide by twelve inches deep, with sky-blue lining and edging, having three rosettes of the same color. No other color shall be allowed, and no other ornament should be worn, except by officers and past officers of Lodges, who may have the emblems of their offices, in silver, on the Apron.

An officer of a subordinate Lodge should wear a blue Sash; a blue velvet Collar, trimmed with silver lace, and a silver Jewel.

The Jewels of a subordinate Lodge shall be as follows : —

The Jewel of a Past Master shall be the blazing Sun, within Compasses, extended on a Quadrant; the Master, the Square; Senior Warden, the Level; Junior Warden, the Plumb; Treasurer, the cross Keys; Secretary, the cross Pens; Chaplain, the Bible, within a circle; Deacons, the Compasses and Square united; Marshal, Baton in a square; Stewards, Cornucopia, in a circle; Organist, Lyre in a circle; Tyler, cross Swords.

SECT. 3. — No brother shall, on any pretence, be admitted into the Grand Lodge, or any subordinate Lodge, without his proper clothing, nor shall any officer of the Grand Lodge, or representative of a subordinate Lodge (proxies excepted), be allowed to vote, without his Jewel, unless he offers a satisfactory excuse and have permission of the Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VIII.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

SECT. 1. — Lodges of Instruction may be holden in any town or city in the Commonwealth with the permission of the Grand Master, in writing; provided, however, that not less than two Lodges shall apply for such permission. The brethren to whom such permission is granted shall be answerable for the proceedings of such Lodge of Instruction, and responsible that the mode of working therein adopted has received the sanction of the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 2. — Notice of the times and places of meeting of such Lodges of Instruction shall be given to the brethren in the vicinity, who shall be at liberty to join the same, subject to such rules, regulations, and assessments as may be agreed upon.

SECT. 3. — Each Lodge of Instruction shall keep a record of its proceedings, and of the names of all visiting brethren present at each meeting, and of brethren appointed to hold office; and such record shall be produced when called for by the Grand Master, or by the Lodge granting its sanction.

SECT. 4. — The Grand Master shall have power to

suspend or dissolve any Lodge of Instruction, when, in his opinion, there shall be sufficient cause therefor.

SECT. 5. — Any brother, being a member of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, may become a member of any Lodge of Instruction in this Commonwealth, by complying with the regulations thereof.

Part Fourth.

SUBORDINATE LODGES.

ARTICLE I.

POWERS AND DUTIES.

SECT. 1. — All Lodges under this jurisdiction have a right to convene as Free and Accepted Masons, to receive and enter Apprentices, pass Fellow-Crafts, and raise Master Masons, and assess fees therefor; to choose officers annually; establish funds for charitable purposes, and transact all matters appertaining to Masonry, agreeably to their Charters, the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the ancient usages of the Craft.

SECT. 2. — The Lodges under this jurisdiction shall be formed into Districts by the Grand Master, for each of which a District Deputy Grand Master shall be annually appointed; and it shall be the duty of every Master, or presiding officer of a Lodge, when notified of the intended official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, to convene his Lodge, receive him as the representative of the Grand Lodge, resign the chair to him while making his official communications, submit to his inspection the By-Laws,

Records, and mode of Work, and deliver to him the return of the Lodge, and the dues to the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 3. — The Lodges under this jurisdiction shall make an annual return to their District Deputy Grand Master, of their officers and members, of all candidates initiated, crafted, and raised, agreeably to the form established by the Grand Lodge; for which purpose they shall be furnished with suitable blanks.

SECT. 4. — Should any Lodge neglect to make its returns and payments to the Grand Lodge for the space of two years, the Master and Wardens of such Lodge shall not be permitted to attend, in their official capacity, any meeting of the Grand Lodge, until such returns and payments are made; and should the delinquency continue for three years, the Charter, funds, and regalia of such Lodge may be declared forfeited to the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 5. — No petition for the removal of a Lodge from the place in which it is located shall be sustained in Grand Lodge, unless said petition is sanctioned by the District Deputy Grand Master of the District where said Lodge is situated, and has the approbation of the Lodge nearest the place where the said Lodge is intended to be held; the same to be signified, in writing, to the Grand Lodge. Nor shall any Lodge hold meetings, unless authorized by the Grand Master, in any place other than the one designated in their Charter, under the penalty of a forfeiture thereof.

SECT. 6. — The majority of the members of any Lodge, when duly assembled, shall have the right to instruct their Master and Wardens as their representatives in the Grand Lodge.

SECT. 7. — As every warranted Lodge is a constituent part of the Grand Lodge, in which assembly all the powers of the Fraternity reside, it is clear that no other authority can destroy the power granted by a warrant. If, therefore, the majority of any Lodge should determine to leave the Institution, or leave that Lodge, the Constitution, or power of assembling, remains with the rest of the members who adhere to their allegiance. If the number remaining shall, however, be reduced to less than seven, the Charter shall be returned, agreeably to the regulation in such cases provided.

SECT. 8. — If the Master and Wardens of any Lodge be summoned to attend, or to produce the Charter, books, papers, or accounts of their Lodge, to the Grand Master, or the District Deputy Grand Master within whose jurisdiction it is located, or any committee authorized by the Grand Lodge, and refuse to comply with said summons, or give satisfactory reasons for non-compliance, they may be suspended, and the proceedings shall be notified to the Grand Lodge; when, in case of contumacy, expulsion or revocation of Charter shall be the penalty.

SECT. 9. — All Lodges are particularly bound to observe the same usages and customs. Every deviation, therefore, from the established mode of working is highly improper, and ought not to be countenanced. In order to preserve this uniformity, and to cultivate a good understanding among the Craft, some members of every Lodge should be deputed to visit the other Lodges as often as may be convenient; and it shall be the duty of the Master and Wardens to qualify themselves in the Work and Lectures, sanctioned by the

Grand Lodge, that they may be enabled to instruct their respective Lodges.

SECT. 10. — Each Lodge shall pay annually towards the support of the Grand Lodge, ten dollars; and five dollars for every candidate by them initiated; and shall receive from the Grand Lodge as many Diplomas as they may make Master Masons.

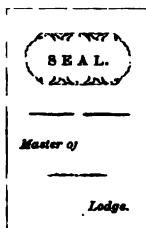
ARTICLE II.

PROXIES OF LODGES.

SECT. 1. — It is the duty of every Lodge to be represented at the Communications of the Grand Lodge, by its Master and Wardens, or by a proxy duly commissioned, under the seal of the Lodge, and the attestation of the Master and Secretary; and, that there may be no excuse for neglect of this duty, each Lodge is authorized to appoint any Master Mason of regular standing, not holding office in the Grand Lodge, and being a member of said Lodge, a proxy to represent them in the Grand Lodge; and such proxy shall have a right to a seat in the Grand Lodge during the masonic year in which he was appointed, and to a vote when the Master and Wardens of the Lodge he represents shall not either of them be present.

SECT. 2. — Any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, but established beyond the territorial limits of Massachusetts, may constitute an honorary member of such Lodge to act as its proxy in Grand Lodge. The letter, by which a Lodge shall appoint a proxy is to be in form and substance as follows, viz: —

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.



BE IT KNOWN, That Brother — —, of — —, having been chosen by the members of — — Lodge, in — —, to represent said Lodge in Grand Lodge the ensuing year, I do, by these presents, in their behalf, constitute and appoint him their representative; for them to appear, and upon all subjects relating to the Craft in general and to said Lodge in particular, to act and decide as fully as though we were personally present.

Confirming the acts of our beloved brother, in his capacity aforesaid, we pray that he may enjoy all the privileges and protection to which we are entitled.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused the seal of our Lodge to be affixed, this — — day of — —, A.L. 58—.

Attest, — — — —, *Secretary.*

SECT. 3.—Every Lodge represented by proxy in the Grand Lodge shall issue the commission annually. All commissions of proxies shall expire with the closing of the Grand Lodge on the festival of St. John the Evangelist, or the day of installation; and no brother shall represent more than one Lodge at the same time, either as representative or proxy.

SECT. 4.—Every subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction shall be allowed three votes in all elections and other business in this Grand Lodge, whether represented by one or more of its representatives.

ARTICLE III.

INITIATION OF CANDIDATES.

SECT. 1. — All applications for initiation shall be made in writing, over the signature of the applicant, and in the following form : —

FORM OF PETITION.

To the W. Master, Wardens, and Members of ——— Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

The subscriber respectfully represents, that having long entertained a favorable opinion of your ancient institution, he is desirous, if found worthy, to be admitted a member thereof.

My place of residence is ———.

Age ———.

Occupation ——— ———.

I have ——— before applied for initiation.

Signed, _____.

[Date.] _____

RECOMMENDATION.

I, ——— ———, member of ——— Lodge aforesaid, hereby recommend said ——— ——— for initiation.

Signed, _____.

No candidate shall be balloted for who has not been proposed at a Stated Monthly Meeting, and who shall not have stood so proposed from one Regular Monthly Meeting to another, without a Dispensation therefor; nor shall a candidate, in any event, be balloted for, into whose moral character a strict inquiry has not been made, and whose

name has not been borne on the notifications for the meeting at which he is to be balloted for. It shall not be regular for any Lodge which does not usually issue written or printed notifications of its meetings, to ballot upon any application for the degrees when there is a Dispensation therefor, at any but Stated Monthly Meetings, without written or printed notifications to the members of the Lodge, with the name of the candidate borne thereon.

SECT. 2. — No candidate, whose application may be rejected by a Lodge, shall be initiated in any Lodge under this jurisdiction, other than the one to which he first applied, without a recommendation from six members of the said Lodge, of whom the Master and Wardens shall be three. And when the Master and Wardens are unwilling so to recommend a candidate who has been rejected, it shall be their duty to communicate such rejection to the Grand Lodge, or to the District Deputy Grand Master, who shall immediately communicate the same to all the Lodges under his jurisdiction. And if any Mason knowingly assist, or recommend for initiation, *to any Lodge whatever*, any candidate rejected as aforesaid, who may not have obtained a recommendation as before provided, such Mason shall be expelled from the institution, or subjected to such other penalty as the Grand Lodge may see cause to impose.

Any candidate residing within this State, whose application has been rejected, who shall be initiated in any other Lodge, without the recommendation aforesaid, shall be deemed a clandestine Mason, and shall not be allowed to visit any Lodge within this jurisdiction, and the Craft is hereby forbidden to hold masonic intercourse with him.

SECT. 3. — The general rule which governs the Order in the admission of members is, that such admission is to be sanctioned by entire unanimity ; and so sacred and fundamental does the Grand Lodge conceive this rule to be, that no candidate shall be initiated in any Lodge, under this jurisdiction, without a clear and unanimous vote in his favor. Every member present shall vote on the application, unless excused by the Lodge.

SECT. 4. — By the ancient regulations, the physical deformity of an individual operates as a bar to his admission into the Fraternity. But in view of the fact that this regulation was adopted for the government of the Craft at a period when they united the character of *operative* with that of *speculative* Masons, this Grand Lodge, in common it is believed with most of her sister Grand Lodges in this country and in Europe, has authorized such a construction of the regulation as that where the deformity does not amount to an inability to meet the requirements of the ritual, and honestly to acquire the means of subsistence, it constitutes no hindrance to initiation.

SECT. 5. — Application for initiation shall be made to the Lodge in the town or city where the petitioner resides, if there be a Lodge therein ; but if there be none, then he shall apply to the Lodge most convenient to his residence, and it shall be the duty of such Lodge to make due and careful inquiry as to the moral standing of the petitioner, of some respectable and reliable person or persons living in the place of his residence, before he shall be initiated. And no persons residing in a town or city where there is a Lodge shall be initiated in any other town or city, without the

written consent and recommendation of the Master, one Warden, and two members at least, of each Lodge in the town or city where he resides; provided, however, that where there are more than two Lodges in any town or city, such consent and recommendation shall not be required of more than two of them. Nor shall any candidate be received from any other State (he being a resident thereof) where a regular Lodge is established, without the written permission of the Grand Master of such State.

SECT. 6. — No Entered Apprentice or Fellow-Craft, initiated or passed in any Lodge within the United States, shall be passed or raised in any Lodge under this jurisdiction, without the consent of the Master and Wardens of the Lodge in which he was first admitted, or a Dispensation from the Grand Master.

SECT. 7. — Any member of a subordinate Lodge may object to the initiation, passing, or raising of a candidate, at any time before the degree is conferred; and it shall be the duty of the Lodge to investigate such objections before proceeding further with the candidate.

SECT. 8. — The fee demanded by a Lodge for initiating, crafting, and raising a Mason, shall not be less than twenty-five dollars, including the fee to the Grand Lodge; and no Lodge under this jurisdiction shall take notes of hand for fees, or grant any time of credit therefor.

SECT. 9. — No Lodge, in the absence of the Master and Wardens, shall initiate, craft, or raise a candidate.

SECT. 10. — No Lodge shall hold more than one Communication on the same day, *nor confer either of the three degrees upon more than FIVE candidates at one Commu-*

nication. No Lodge shall permit more than one candidate to be present at the same time in the first section of the first degree, nor in the second section of the third degree.

NOTE. — In the discussion of this Article in Grand Lodge, the first Section being under consideration, the opinion was expressed and acquiesced in that the clause in said section which requires the names of candidates to be borne on the notifications for the meeting at which the balloting takes place, is not intended to affect the Lodges in the country, which do not issue written notifications.

Part Fifth.

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

SECT. 1. — No business, other than that appertaining to the Work and Lectures, shall be transacted in a Lodge while open on the first or second degree. All general business, such as the election and installation of officers, the discussion of questions relating to the general interests of the Fraternity, and the local affairs of the Lodge, shall be transacted in a Masters' Lodge.

SECT. 2. — The Lodges shall admit as members such only as are Master Masons. Any brother having been discharged for non-payment of dues, shall not be admitted to membership in any other Lodge until the same are paid or remitted. The receipt or certificate from the Secretary of the Lodge of which the applicant was last a member, shall be satisfactory evidence that his dues have been liquidated.

SECT. 3. — The Master of any Lodge under this jurisdiction, who has faithfully discharged his duties and complied with the laws of the Grand Lodge, shall, at the end of his first year, be presented by the District Deputy Grand Master with a Past Master's Diploma.

SECT. 4. — Any Lodge may take cognizance of the conduct of any sojourning brother or brethren, not attached

to any particular Lodge, upon a charge of unmasonic conduct.

SECT. 5. — No Lodge shall encourage, promote, or permit the delivery of any masonic lectures, which have not been sanctioned and authorized by the Grand Lodge. Nor shall any Mason be permitted to deliver such lectures under this jurisdiction.

SECT. 6. — No Lodge shall form a public procession without permission from the Grand Master (or, in his absence, the Deputy Grand Master,) or the District Deputy Grand Master, within whose District it is located.

SECT. 7. — No Mason can be interred with the formalities of the Order, unless it be at his own special request, without a Dispensation from the Grand Master; nor under any circumstances, unless he has been advanced to the degree of a Master Mason.

SECT. 8. — No Lodge, or officer or member of a Lodge, shall under any circumstances give a certificate or recommendation to enable a Mason to proceed from Lodge to Lodge as a pauper, or in an itinerant manner to apply to Lodges for relief.

SECT. 9. — It shall not be permitted to introduce political or other exciting topics for discussion in any Lodge under this jurisdiction.

SECT. 10. — A Lodge ought to meet once in each calendar month, but may with propriety adjourn during the summer months of June, July, and August.

SECT. 11. — The Master of a Lodge has the special charge of its Charter, and it is his duty to see that it is carefully preserved. It must be present whenever the Lodge is opened.

SECT. 12. — A visiting brother, having produced his Grand Lodge Certificate, or Diploma, has a right to call for the Charter of the Lodge he desires to visit.

SECT. 13. — No brother shall be a member of more than one Lodge; nor shall he hold more than one office in the same Lodge, or in Grand Lodge, at the same time.

SECT. 14. — The removal of a brother into another jurisdiction does not, of itself, authorize his name to be stricken from the roll of the Lodge of which he is a member.

SECT. 15. — No Mason, not a member of some subordinate Lodge, shall be allowed to visit the same Lodge in the place where he resides more than twice, without the permission of the Master or vote of the Lodge.

SECT. 16. — No Lodge can suspend the operation of a By-Law; nor, at a *Special* Meeting, alter or amend any part of the proceedings of a *Stated* one.

SECT. 17. — No brother ought to be elected Master of a Lodge who has not served at least one year in the office of Warden.

SECT. 18. — No Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons can legally assemble in this Commonwealth under a Warrant granted by any foreign masonic power.

SECT. 19. — It shall not be legal for any Lodge to interfere with the business or concerns of another Lodge.

SECT. 20. — Any vote passed in the Grand Lodge, or by any subordinate Lodge, may be reconsidered at the same meeting; or at the next subsequent meeting, provided notice of the intention to move for such a reconsideration shall be given at the meeting at which the vote was originally passed.

SECT. 21. — A Lodge or brother offending against any law or regulation of the Craft, or of this Grand Lodge, to the breach of which no penalty is attached, shall, at the discretion of the Grand Lodge, be subject to admonition, suspension, or expulsion.

SECT. 22. — No permanent regulation of this Grand Lodge shall be repealed or amended at the meeting at which such repeal or amendment is proposed, nor until it has been duly considered by a committee, to be chosen by the Grand Lodge at a previous Quarterly Communication. And every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, within the territorial limits of Massachusetts, shall be served by the Recording Grand Secretary with an attested copy of such proposed repeal or amendment within thirty days after the meeting at which such repeal or amendment is proposed. A majority of two-thirds of the votes cast shall be necessary for the adoption of any amendment.

SECT. 23. — No Lodge shall apply for, receive, or act under any corporate Charter granted by any Legislature or political government; and the receiving such Charter of incorporation, or acting thereunder by any Lodge under this jurisdiction, shall operate as a surrender and revocation of its masonic Charter or Warrant from this Grand Lodge.

Part Sixth.

RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND LODGE.

RULE 1. — None but members of the Grand Lodge, past or present officers of other Grand Lodges excepted, shall be present at the opening of the same, nor shall any visitor be admitted during the session, except by permission of the Grand Master.

2. — All members and visitors shall keep the seats assigned them, except the Grand Marshal and officers whose duties may call them about the Lodge.

3. — All resolutions shall be submitted in writing before there shall be any debate upon them ; as shall all motions, if the Grand Master or any brother desire it.

4. — All matters in Grand Lodge are to be decided by vote, each member having one vote only, unless the question be taken by ballot, when, if he be entitled to two votes, he may give them. The Grand Master shall be entitled to one vote on all questions, and may also give the casting vote whenever there shall be an equal division.

5. — Each member shall vote on all questions, except when he is personally interested, unless specially excused by the Grand Lodge.

6. — No brother shall speak more than twice to the same question, unless in explanation, without permission of the Grand Master.

7. — Every member who speaks shall rise and remain standing, addressing himself to the Grand Master; nor shall any brother presume to interrupt him, except on a point of order.

8. — When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to amend, commit, lay upon the table, or adjourn.

9. — A motion to amend, until decided, shall preclude all other amendments of the main question.

10. — Any member may call for a division of the question where the same will admit of it.

11. — No new motion, which totally changes the subject matter on which the original motion was intended to operate, shall be admitted, under color of amendment, as a substitute for the motion under debate.

12. — No member, except one of the majority which decided the question, shall be allowed to move for a reconsideration.

13. — After a motion is stated by the Grand Master, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Grand Lodge, but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment.

14. — There shall be no debate upon any question after it is put by the Grand Master.

15. — All motions and reports may be committed at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge.

16. — While the Grand Master is addressing the Grand Lodge, or putting a question, or a brother is speaking, no member shall entertain any private discourse, nor pass between the speaker and the chair.

17. — All communications, petitions, appeals, resolutions, propositions, and motions shall be couched in decent and respectful language, or they shall not be entertained in Grand Lodge.

18. — No brother shall leave the Grand Lodge during the session, without permission of the Grand Master.

19. — If any member shall have been twice called to order for transgressing these Rules, and shall nevertheless be guilty of a third offence, at the same meeting, the Grand Master shall peremptorily command him to take his seat, and he shall not be permitted to speak again during that session of the Grand Lodge.

DEFINITIONS.

1. — *Ample Form*. The Grand Lodge is declared to be opened in *Ample Form* when the Grand Master presides.

2. — *In Due Form*, when the Deputy Grand Master presides. And —

3. — *In Form*, when it is opened in the absence of both the Grand Master and his Deputy.

4. — *Discharged Member*. This term is applied to a member of a Lodge who has been discharged for non-payment of his quarterly dues, or other violation of the local rules of his Lodge.

5. — *Suspension*. The suspension of a brother excludes him from all his masonic privileges, and prohibits all masonic intercourse between him and his brethren during the time of his suspension.

6. — *Expulsion*. This is the highest penalty that can be incurred, and the severest punishment that can be inflicted, for any violation of masonic engagements. It excludes a Mason from all his masonic rights and privileges forever, unless he be restored by the Grand Lodge. It ought never to be exercised but with extreme caution, and in cases where a lighter punishment would be of no avail.

7. — *Summons and Notification.* These terms are used in the old regulations, and by many of the Grand Lodges in this country, synonymously. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts makes the following distinction : —

A *Notification* is the notice by which the time, place, and hour (and frequently the business) of the Lodge are communicated to the members. This notice every brother receiving it is expected to obey, unless his doing so would materially interfere with his *business* engagements. The obligation which it imposes is a general one ; and the highest penalty incurred by a violation of it is forfeiture of membership.

A *Summons* is a call of authority ; a citation to appear and answer to the charges therein set forth. Or, it is an imperative injunction to appear at a Special Meeting of the Lodge with which the brother receiving it is affiliated ; or to attend on the Grand Master, the District Deputy Grand Master, or any committee or other body authorized by the Grand Lodge to issue it. The obligation to obey it is special and obligatory on every brother receiving it. The penalty for its non-observance is expulsion, unless the party offending be able to urge a pressing and positive necessity for his excuse.

8. — *The Lodge.* The term *Lodge* is generally understood to refer to the members of a particular masonic association, or the place in which they meet. In a few of the States, it technically signifies the Ark of the Covenant, which is kept in the hall, and frequently carried in public processions. The Ark is not used in our Lodges. The *flooring*, or Master's carpet, is frequently called the Lodge.

9. — *The Flooring, or Carpet*, is a regularly arranged painting of the masonic emblems on canvass. No Lodge should be without one.

10. — *The Trestle-Board, or Tracing-Board*, "is for the Master to draw his designs upon"; or it is the board on which the designs of the Master are already drawn. The term is frequently used synonymously with *flooring* and *carpet*.

CONFERRING DEGREES.

The following Order was adopted by the Grand Lodge, June 4, 1848, and makes part of these Constitutions :

" *Ordered*, That from and after the passage of this Order, it shall not be regular to give more than one degree to the same individual on the same day, nor at a less interval than one month from his receiving the previous degree, unless a Dispensation shall have been obtained therefor."

STANDING VOTES, RESOLUTIONS, AND ORDERS OF THE
GRAND LODGE, NOW IN FORCE.

Ordered, That it shall not be regular, hereafter, for any Lodge which does not usually issue written or printed notifications of its meetings to ballot upon any application for the degrees when there is a Dispensation therefor, at any but Stated Monthly Meetings, without written or printed notifications to the members of the Lodge, with the name of the candidate borne thereon.

Voted, That the Secretary cause the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge to be annually hereafter published with the Proceedings.

Voted, That the Grand Master be authorized and empowered to draw upon the Treasurer for such sums of money as are necessary to defray the expenses of the meetings of the District Deputy Grand Masters at the Annual and Quarterly Communications of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Master in his Annual Address report such expenditures.

Voted, That, in the dedication of new masonic halls, the Grand Lodge will pay the travelling expenses of its own officers, whenever, in the opinion of the Grand Master, the subordinate Lodge is unable to bear them.

Voted, That, in constituting new Lodges, the travelling expenses *only* of the Grand Officers shall be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Voted, That whenever the Grand Officers are invited to perform the ceremony of installation, either publicly or in private, the entire expense shall be borne by the subordinate Lodge.

Voted, That the M. W. Grand Master be instructed to make a detailed report of the financial condition of the Grand Lodge in his Annual Address.

Voted, That the Grand Secretary insert in his notifications for meetings of the Grand Lodge, the Part, Article, and Section of any proposed Amendment to the Grand Constitutions, which may be in order for deliberation at such meetings.

SINKING FUND.

For the purpose of defraying the indebtedness of the Grand Lodge, removing the incumbrances upon the Temple, and placing the Charity Fund upon an independent basis, it is hereby ordered and decreed by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, as follows : —

That the sum of one dollar, as Grand Lodge dues, shall be paid on the first day of September, annually, for the term of thirteen years, by every affiliated Mason under our jurisdiction.

Said sum shall be collected by the Lodges of their members, and paid to the District Deputy Grand Masters, at their annual visits.

Any member, by paying the sum of ten dollars at one time, shall thereafter be exempt from the operation of this decree.

No non-affiliated Mason, residing in the State of Massachusetts, shall visit any Lodge without first paying the sum of twenty-five cents at each visit, which sum shall be paid by the Lodges to the District Deputy Grand Master, as before ordered.

Said moneys shall constitute the sinking-fund of the Grand Lodge, to which all moneys unappropriated at the end of each year shall be added, and the same shall be separately invested by the Grand Treasurer, under the direction of the

Board of Directors, and pledged to the payment of the debt upon the Temple.

The Grand Treasurer, at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, shall make a full and exact report of the sinking-fund, of the amount received from each Lodge, the amount invested, and how much invested, and of all matters relating thereto.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby pledges the faith of the Fraternity of the Commonwealth to sustain the M.W. Grand Master and the Board of Directors in completing and paying for the New Masonic Temple, now being erected in this city.

STATIONS OF THE GRAND OFFICERS IN THE GRAND
LODGE.

THE M.W. GRAND MASTER,

In the East, at the head of the Grand Lodge.

THE R.W. DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

In the East, next to and left of the M.W. Grand Master.

THE R.W. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,

In the West.

THE R.W. JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN,

In the South.

THE R.W. PAST GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, at the right of the M.W. Grand Master, and the Junior Past Grand Master next to the Grand Master.

THE R.W. PAST DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, at the right of the Past Grand Masters.

THE R.W. PAST GRAND WARDENS,

In the East, at the right of the Past Deputy Grand Masters.

THE R.W. GRAND TREASURER,

On the right, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.W. RECORDING GRAND SECRETARY,

On the left, in front of the Grand Master.

THE R.W. CORRESPONDING GRAND SECRETARY,

On the left, next to the Recording Grand Secretary.

THE R.W. DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS,

In the East, on the left of the Deputy Grand Master.

THE W. AND REV. GRAND CHAPLAINS,

In the East, the Senior upon a raised dais in front of the Grand Master and between him and the Past Junior Grand Master; and the Junior upon a raised dais upon the left of the Grand Master and between him and the Deputy Grand Master, both being upon a lower grade than that of the Grand Master and that of the officers upon his right and left.

CONSTITUTIONS OF

THE W. GRAND MARSHAL,

Upon the left of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Secretary.

THE W. SENIOR GRAND DEACON,

Upon the right of the Grand Master, in front of the Grand Treasurer.

THE W. JUNIOR GRAND DEACON,

In the West, at the right of the Senior Grand Warden.

THE W. GRAND STEWARDS,

In the South, two upon the right, and two upon the left of the Junior Grand Warden, upon each side, one Steward in front of the other.

THE W. GRAND SWORD-BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Marshal.

THE W. GRAND STANDARD-BEARER,

At the left of the Grand Sword-Bearer.

THE W. GRAND PURSUIVANTS,

Near the doors of entrance to the Grand Lodge, and whose duty it is "to receive all reports from the Grand Tyler, to announce the name and masonic rank of all who desire admission, and to see that none enter without wearing their appropriate decorations."

THE W. GRAND LECTURERS,

The first and second on the right of the Senior Grand Deacon, and the third in the West, at the left of the R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

BR. GRAND ORGANIST,

At the Organ.

BR. GRAND TYLER,

Outside of the entrance to the Grand Lodge.

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I N D E X .

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